



BIG GAY NEWS: MARRIAGE EQUALITY IN AMERICA

LAVENDER[®]

Since 1995



★★ **Outdoor
Dining** ★★
& Pets Issue



**Where to eat, where to drink,
where to bring your pets.**

525

LAVENDERMAGAZINE.COM
MINNESOTA'S GLBT MAGAZINE
JULY 9-22, 2015

Available on the
App Store
x 15,380

DOWNLOAD
THIS ISSUE ON
NEWSSTAND



JOIN 75.7K OF
US ON TWITTER
@BIGGAYNEWS



**TOP 5
MAGAZINE
OF THE YEAR**



**NEXT LAVENDER'S
FIRST THURSDAY: 8/6/15
AT RED COW - NORTH LOOP**



Celebrate cocktails.

Join *Minnesota Monthly* at the 4th annual **Fine Spirits Classic**. Sample high-end spirits from around the world. Enjoy gourmet bites from local restaurants. Be entertained by local bartenders.

What could be finer? (Hint: almost nothing.)



MINNEAPOLIS
EVENT CENTERS



THE **CW23**
TWIN CITIES



go
96.3



Minnesota
Monthly

Thursday, July 30 | **6:30-9 p.m.** | Minneapolis Event Centers
Tickets available at finespiritsclassic.com

MOVING FOR LOVE?

Turn one home into an income property with the Professional Landlords!



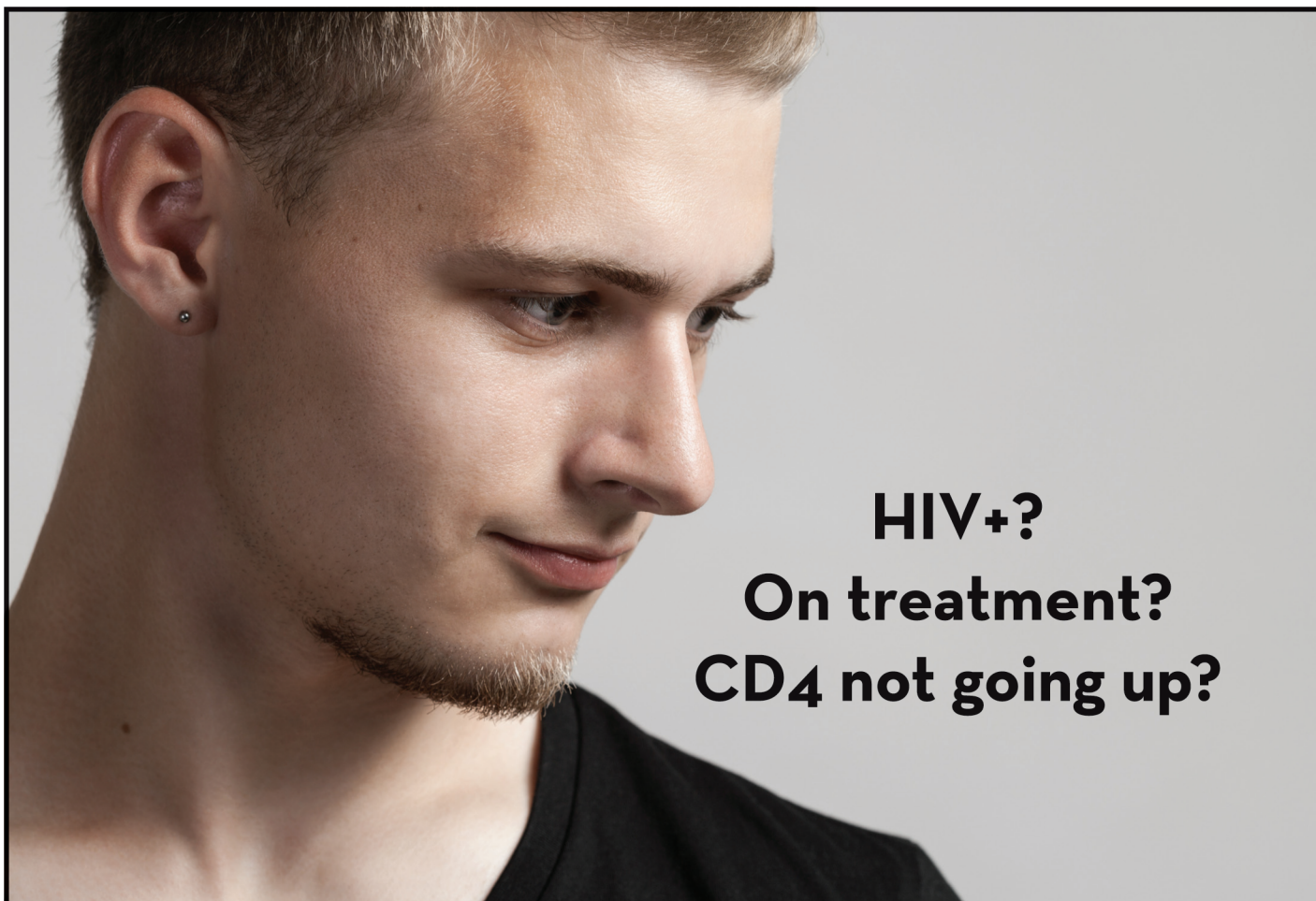
Earn long-term equity + Monthly cash-flow + Significant tax benefits + 18-month tenant warranty with extended lease + \$80/month 24/7 property management

Ready to rent? Find out how much your home will rent for today!



RentersWarehouse®
THE PROFESSIONAL LANDLORDS™

GET A FREE RENTAL PRICE ANALYSIS!
RentersWarehouse.com | 952-470-8888



**HIV+?
On treatment?
CD4 not going up?**

Join a study at the University of Minnesota
that is using an innovative new therapy to
boost CD4 cells and restore normal immunity.

Call today and see if you qualify.

612-625-7472
hiv.umn.edu

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to DiscoverSM

WAREHOUSE SALE!

UP TO 90% OFF RETAIL

4 DAYS ONLY



7/16 - 7/19

SALE HOURS:

THURS-SAT 10-6

SUN 12-4



HABITATION™

STAGING

HABITATION STAGING

10779 HAMPSHIRE AVE. S
BLOOMINGTON, MN 55438

ELITE
PRIVATE SEARCH

Matchmaking for Exceptional Men

*Personally recruiting the most qualified matches
for our most selective clients in the Twin Cities.*

DATE OUR ELITE

There is no upfront cost or membership fee for you to be introduced to our Elite clients. Simply sign up and our *Elite Matchmaking Team* will contact you for an interview. If you're a potential match for one of our *Elite Bachelors*, our team takes care of all the date arrangements. Call today if you're motivated to find a partner and interested in the highest level of personal matchmaking.



Fill out the confidential profile form to get started! ♦♦♦ GAYELITEDATES.COM | 612.376.7370

CONTENTS

LAVENDER®

FEATURE: OUTDOOR DINING

18 New Outdoor Hot Spots

24 Outdoor Dining for the 'Mo in the Know

SPECIAL: PETS

26 Dog-Friendly Patios

30 Pet-Friendly Hotel

OUR LAVENDER

10 From the Editor

11 A Word in Edgewise

12 Big Gay News: Marriage Equality

14 Lavender Lens

16 Bear With Me (While I Tell You About)...

OUR SCENE

32 Travel: Spargel

34 Arts: Spotlight

39 Bar Showcase

OUR LIVES

40 Leather Life

OUR AFFAIRS

44 Books

45 Books: Q & A with Ron Perrier

OUR HOMES

48 Ride Review

OUR RESOURCES

53 Classifieds

54 The Network

56 Community Connection

OUR VOICES

50 Skirting the Issues

52 Dateland

52 Trolin

58 Through These Eyes

ON THE COVER

Enjoy your summer more with your pet on any of the numerous dog-friendly locations in the Twin Cities, like Claire King and Berit Freed with Uma Thurman at Sea Salt. Photo by Hubert Bonnet



Correction: Photos in issue 522 of the Minnesota Philharmonic Orchestra were incorrectly credited to Matthew F. Mitchell. The photographer's name is Matthew F. Witchell.



Page 26: Photo by Don Pitlik. Page 32: Photo by Carla Waldemar. Page 40: Photo by Steve Lenius. Page 48: Photo by Randy Stern.

ONLINE



Online Magazine



Prizes



LavenderMagazine.com

Available on www.LavenderMagazine.com: Our Online Magazine, read it on your computer, iPad, iPhone, or DROID. Prizes, register to win. Exclusive content only online, not in print.

CLOUTIER LAW OFFICES P.A.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

OVER 25 YEARS OF LEGAL EXPERIENCE.




- Family/Divorce/Custody
- Injuries/Auto Accidents
- Second/Step Parent Adoption
- Wills & Trusts
- Domestic Partnerships/Dissolution
- Probate
- Prenuptial Agreements
- Business Law
- Sperm/Egg Donor Agreements
- Employment Law
- Gay Marriage Advice
- Bankruptcy

Convenient Downtown
Skyway Connected Offices



Elizabeth Cloutier
PFLAG Member

612.332.5100
www.cloutier-law.com
1005 Historic Lumber Exchange Building
10 S. 5th St. Minneapolis, MN 55402
FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION



RINGS BY
Polly Wales

jewelry | home | chocolate

Shops at Excelsior & Grand | 3826 Grand Way | St. Louis Park | 952.922.8364

max's
www.StyleByMax.com

Steve Burns, Ph.D. 

Licensed Psychologist • 612-990-0649

Hours by appointment Tuesday - Friday


Northland
Therapy Center

Convenient Midway Location
2324 University Ave. W., Suite 100



AM950

Listen at
AM950radio.com
or on our App



**One-Of-A-Kind
Jade Event**

Meet Leor Mason,
Fine Jade Expert

Wed, July 15th &
Thur, July 16th
10:00am - 8:00pm

SCHETTERAZADE JEWELERS
Galleria • 69th & France • Edina
sjewelers.com • 952-926-2455

Are you concerned by your sexual behavior?
Is compulsive sexual behavior a problem in your life?

The professionals at the University of Minnesota
Physicians Center for Sexual Health can help you
gain control.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
PHYSICIANS

Center for Sexual Health
612-625-1500
www.umphysicians.org

Looking for a way to save?

You need to insure both your auto and
your home, so why not save money in the
process? Call today for a free, no obligation
look at auto and home discounts
from American Family.



Dawn Bartell Agency
4649 Bloomington Avenue
Minneapolis, MN
dbartell@amfam.com
612.333.5554



All your protection under one roof®



American Family Mutual Insurance Company and its Subsidiaries
American Standard Insurance Company of Wisconsin
Home Office - Madison, WI 53783
American Family Insurance Company
American Standard Insurance Company of Ohio
Home Office - Columbus, OH 43240
www.amfam.com © 2008

LAVENDER®

Volume 21, Issue 525 • July 9-22, 2015

Editorial

Managing Editor Andy Lien 612-436-4671

Assistant Managing Editor Shane Lueck 612-436-4692

Editorial Assistant Linda Raines 612-436-4694

Editor Emeritus Ethan Boatner

Editorial Associate George Holdgrafer

Copy Editor Bridget Rocheford-Kearney

Contributors Kathleen Bradbury, Thomas Ehnert, Nell Gelhaus, Ed Huyck, Justin Jones, Ellen Krug, Steve Lenius, Shane Lueck, Brandon McCray, Jennifer Parello, Randy Stern, Joy Summers, John Townsend, Bradley Traynor, Carla Waldemar

Advertising

Sales & Advertising Director Barry Leavitt 612-436-4690

Senior Account Executive Suzanne Farrell 612-436-4699

Account Executives Robert Felton 612-436-4697, Richard Kranz 612-436-4675, Tawnya Konobeck 612-436-4695, Morgan Ross 612-436-4696

Advertising Associate George Holdgrafer

Sales & Advertising Traffic Coordinator

Linda Raines 612-436-4694

Sales Lead Specialist Michelle Ulmer 612-436-4693

Classifieds Suzanne Farrell 612-436-4699

National Sales Representative Rivendell Media
212-242-6863

Creative

Creative Director Hubert Bonnet 612-436-4678

Graphic Designer Mike Hnida 612-436-4679

Photographer Sophia Hantzes

Lavender Studios Hubert Bonnet, Mike Hnida

Administration

Publisher Lavender Media, Inc.

President & CEO Stephen Rocheford 612-436-4665

Vice President & CC Pierre Tardif 612-436-4666

Chief Financial Officer Mary Lauer 612-436-4664

Distribution Manager/Administrative Assistant Molly Gosh
612-436-4660

Founders George Holdgrafer, Stephen Rocheford

Inspiration Steven W. Anderson (1954-1994), Timothy J. Lee (1968-2002), Russell Berg (1957-2005), Kathryn Rocheford (1914-2006), Jonathan Halverson (1974-2010), Adam Houghtaling (1984-2012), Walker Pearce (1946-2013)

Letters are subject to editing for grammar, punctuation, space, and libel. They should be no more than 300 words. Letters must include name, address, and phone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Priority will be given to letters that refer to material previously published in Lavender Magazine. Submit letters to Lavender Magazine, Letters to the Editor, 7701 York Ave S, Suite 225, Edina, MN 55435; or e-mail <editor@lavendermagazine.com>.

For our Privacy Policy, go to LavenderMagazine.com/resources/privacy-policy

Lavender Media, Inc.

7701 York Ave S, Suite 225, Edina, MN 55435

612-436-4660 **Office**

612-436-4685 **Fax**

612-436-4664 **Subscriptions**

612-436-4660 **Distribution**

612-436-4698 **Advertising**

LAVENDER
MAGAZINE.COM
LavenderMagazine.com

BIG GAY NEWS
ICOM
BigGayNews.com



Audit Bureau
of Circulations
Member



Printer of Lavender

W.D. HOARD & SONS, CO.
WEB PRINTING DIVISION
(920) 563-5551

Entire contents copyright 2015. All rights reserved. Publication of the name or photograph of any person, organization, or business in this magazine does not reflect upon one's sexual orientation whatsoever. Lavender Magazine reserves the right to refuse any advertising. This issue of Lavender Magazine is available free of charge during the time period published on the cover. Pickup at one of our distribution sites is limited to one copy per person.

CONTRIBUTORS



E.B. BOATNER



JOY SUMMERS



BRADLEY TRAYNOR



SHANE LUECK



CARLA WALDEMAR



JOHN TOWNSEND



STEVE LENIUS



RANDY STERN



ELLEN KRUG



JENNIFER PARELLO



JUSTIN JONES

Bankruptcy Law

Proudly serving our community for over 24 years



Stop:

– wage garnishment – bank levies – foreclosure – creditor phone calls

PRACTICE AREAS INCLUDE:

Wills • Powers of Attorney • GLBT Family Law

BECKY A. MOSHIER
— ATTORNEY AT LAW —

PROVIDING NEW BEGINNINGS SINCE 1991

2233 University Ave. W., Ste 420, St. Paul, MN 55114 (near Hwy. 94 & Hwy. 280)

We are a debt relief agency. We help people file for bankruptcy relief under the Bankruptcy Code.



Call for a FREE consultation with an experienced bankruptcy attorney

651-645-1211

www.moshierbankruptcylaw.com

What's Your Plan?



Roya Moltaji, CFP®, ChFC®, CASL™, ADPA™

Financial Services Representative
Financial Advisor, Special Needs Financial Planner

301 Carlson Parkway, Suite 300 Minnetonka, MN 55305

952.769.2126 | Fax: 952.854.7889 | rmoltaji@metlife.com

www.financialstrategies.metlife.com

Call Roya today at
952-769-2126



MetLife - 100% Corporate Equality Index score HRC 11 consecutive years Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MLIC), New York, NY 10036. Securities products and investment advisory services offered by MetLife Securities, Inc. (MSI) (member FINRA/SIPC) a registered investment advisor. MLIC and MSI are MetLife companies.

L0315416193[exp0316][MN]



\$50 OFF your wedding band purchase of \$350 or more!

Burnsville | Maplewood | Bloomington | Maple Grove | West End | Eden Prairie

AND COMING SOON TO ST. CLOUD!

Offer valid in-store and online. Not valid on previous purchases, trade-ins, Simon G, Verragio, loose diamonds, semi mounts, or fashion jewelry. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Limit one per couple. Use promo code: LVD100

Marriage Equality, a Covered Wagon, and Metro Transit

I was on a travel writing trip the week we were waiting to hear about the Supreme Court's ruling regarding marriage equality. When it didn't happen on that Monday while I was still in town, I alerted Shane, our Assistant Managing Editor, to all of the various news sources he'd need to monitor for those crucial minutes in the morning on Thursday (and Friday as it turned out) to be able to get the word out on social networking and Big Gay News as soon as possible. As someone who's usually in charge of every waking moment of my day, I was on someone else's time and schedule; the whole itinerary was planned for maximizing our time to see and learn about everything Kansas City, Missouri has to offer.

Thursday morning, we were in Independence, rather than Kansas City proper. I consider such trips to be equal parts "journalist inservice" and travel writing, since it's rare that I get to observe and learn from 15 other writers and journalists as were in attendance on this trip. I kid you not, as I was refreshing the Twitter feed on my iPhone like someone with a nervous twitch, I was sitting squarely in the middle of a bench of a mule-drawn covered wagon, clip-clopping through the streets. We were touring Independence, the town of President Truman, as I was waiting to hear about marriage rights for this community; the gravity, significance, and irony of those circumstances were not lost on me. One of the other writers simply asked, "Oh, do you guys cover hard news?" as an explanation for my rapt attention to my phone. I was a bit dumbfounded, realizing how different our experiences and lives were, and how we're also just both journalists doing our jobs, if you wanted to boil it down. Rather than take over our tour guide's microphone and lecture on the significance of the SCOTUS ruling to our entire civilization, I gently replied, "I just have to know."

When the decision didn't come Thursday, I was disappointed to know that it would likely happen Friday morning, just as I would be landing back at our airport in Minneapolis/St. Paul. Could I feverishly check the SCOTUSblog feed or would I still be en route when it happened? Shane would handle all the stuff on the journalism side of things, but where would I be? As it turned out, everything clipped along swimmingly for the return trip and I was on the platform, getting on to a light rail train with my luggage, as the news hit my screen at 9:01 a.m. on Friday, June 26: "@SCOTUSblog: There is a right to marriage equality!"

I was holding it together so I wouldn't ugly-cry in public. I looked around at the other people on the light rail train car and nobody was making any indication that they had just felt the earth shift a little, despite being glued to their own little screens. Our train took us underground and I lost signal for the most important moments of the morning, as the news rippled across Twitter and Facebook and in texts and emails. My phone was the most important connection I had to the community I love in those crucial moments; I'd lost my connection to the people who also felt a similar swell of victory and pride that was in my heart, but not my train car.

That, my friends, is why Pride is so important. What I couldn't find on a covered wagon in Missouri or train car traveling through South Minneapolis was that connection to a group of people who have the same goals and challenges and concerns and victories in heart and mind as I do. I got off the train at my platform in St. Paul and spent the rest of the day just trying to get to Pride, despite various tasks and obligations. As with many of us, I look back on that day as a throwaway as far as productivity is concerned; what I spent my day doing was "liking" every single post and rainbow profile picture on Facebook, sharing links, and encouraging and supporting the people who might also just have been hanging on to our community via the internet until we could gather together and celebrate.

And celebrate we did.

Our next issue is all about Pride in Pictures; an issue that will com-

memorate the people and groups who came out to support this community in the time just after history was made. We've come so far, we have a ways to go; together, we can.

With you, with pride, with thanks, and with love,

Andy ■

LAVENDER GRADUATIONS

Lavender likes to celebrate the successes of our people and this last academic year brought us two graduates to present to you: Shane Lueck and Steve Lenius. Shane is our most recent employee, having risen from being a student volunteer of mine almost four years ago to now being the assistant managing editor; Steve is one of the two writers who has been with us from the very beginning, over 20 years ago. We are so fortunate to have them with us, advancing our publication as they advance their own development.

Shane received a master's degree in multicultural college teaching and learning from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. I asked Shane for an explanation and reflection about his degree:

For me, it just gives me the official paperwork to back up what I've already been doing and gives me legitimacy in the eyes of other people. I've always been passionate about diversity and inclusion. For example, I've spent years leading workshops and facilitating roundtable discussions about gender, race, sexuality, religion, and various other identities. And they've always been a hit, but eventually a mentor suggested furthering my education and earning an advanced degree. So, now I have the degree to back up what I'm saying, just for those people who need a little extra convincing that I know what I'm talking about. For my final project, I designed a handbook of sorts filled with tips, tricks, and reflections for how to facilitate conversations of equity and diversity geared toward those people who see the need, but might not have any actual training in equity and diversity. Now when your aunt says something problematic at Thanksgiving or a coworker says something you don't agree with, you can have some tools to rely on and begin those conversations.

Steve, at age 59, was selected student commencement speaker and a spring semester outstanding student at Metropolitan State University. Chosen outstanding student in the university's College of Individualized Studies, he was one of 986 students receiving bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees, he crafted his own major — cultural leadership through writing and design — completing a 40-plus-year quest to obtain a college degree. Steve received much credit from Metropolitan State for his various learning methods as well as recognition for his years of work in our community:

[Steve Lenius is] a 20-year award-winning columnist for Lavender, a Twin Cities-area GLBT magazine, and has written nationally and regionally for the popular press as well as scholarly articles. Moreover, Lenius owns Nelson Borhek Press, which has since 2010 provided editorial services and published books, including his own, Life, Leather and the Pursuit of Happiness. He is a long-time activist, promoter, and documentarian of Minnesota's GLBT and leather communities. Among other activities, Lenius has volunteered creative services for AIDS fundraisers and Twin Cities Pride. He headed a committee that worked several years to bring a national leadership conference for the leather community to Minneapolis, winning a national community-service award in the process.

Congratulations to both Shane and Steve. Their accomplishments and education will only enrich their lives and those around them. We are fortunate to be included in that tribe. ■

O Frabjous Day!

What a week! I write the day after SCOTUS's decision on *Obergefell v. Hodges* on Pride weekend. But this piece won't run for another two weeks, and already there are declarations like that of Mississippi Attorney General Jim Hood: "The Supreme Court's decision is not effective immediately in Mississippi."

Our country's been there before. In 1967, the Supreme Court ruled on *Loving v. Virginia*, invalidating laws forbidding interracial marriage. The suit was brought by Mildred and Richard Loving, a black woman and white man, after having been sentenced to a year in prison for marrying. In 2007, just before Massachusetts endorsed marriage equality, Mildred said, "I support the freedom to marry for all. That's what Loving and loving are all about."

Those working to deny others' rights often claim God Almighty as their proof. Ruling against the Lovings, Virginia Judge Leon M. Bazile borrowed from 18th century German naturalist Johann Friedrich Blumenbach, stating, "Almighty God created the races, black, yellow, Malay and red, and he placed them in separate continents. And but for the interference with his arrangement there would be no cause for such marriages.



The fact that he separated the races shows that he did not intend for the races to mix." (Blumenbach also averred that Adam and Eve were Caucasian and held the "degenerative hypothesis" regarding other races.)

Many continue to assert insider knowledge of God's wishes, as evinced by the perfervid, often bizarre remarks delivered by the four dissenting Supremes, reflecting a weirdly Blumenbachian 17th-century worldview. Things will change. There has been a major tectonic shift, and its effects will ripple, even if in fits and starts. Some citizens will get to know GLBT neighbors while others, say homophobic bosses in some states, will fire newly discerned gay employees. The civil rights struggle itself is hardly resolved, and there are many other GLBT issues to be tackled.

Nevertheless, on Friday, June 26, a new day dawned: George Harris, 82, and Jack Evans, 85, partnered these 54 years, married in Dallas. Rejoice, and savor the closing words of Justice Anthony Kennedy.

"They ask for equal dignity in the eyes of the law. The constitution grants them that right. The judgment of the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit is reversed. It is ordered." ■

**WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE,
TIMING IS EVERYTHING.**

jb hudson
JEWELERS

9th & NICOLLET | MINNEAPOLIS MN
612.338.5950 | JBHUDSON.COM

(CHRISTOPHER, WAYNE & ZOE)

BIGGAYNEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES:**Supreme Court Rules Gay Couples Nationwide Have A Right To Marry**

The Supreme Court on June 26 delivered a historic victory for gay rights, ruling five to four that the Constitution requires that same-sex couples be allowed to marry no matter where they live and that states may no longer reserve the right only for heterosexual couples. The *Washington Post* reports that the four dissenting justices – Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Justices Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas and Samuel A. Alito Jr. – all wrote scathing separate opinions following the historic decision, with most of them pointing to their opinion that the SCOTUS ruling usurped a power that should belong to the people and not to the justices. That evening saw the very face of the White House aglow with lights in rainbow colors in celebration of the victory for equality.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES:**U.S. Landmarks Light Up In Rainbow Lights To Celebrate Gay Marriage Ruling**

The *Gaily Grind* reports that several U.S. landmarks celebrated the Supreme Court's historic ruling by lighting up local landmarks in rainbow colors on June 26. The White House was the most prominent edifice showing off its celebratory lighting in the wake of the landmark decision, but venues across the nation showed off their pride and support by lighting up with the colors of the rainbow, which is traditionally associated with gay pride. Tweets and Facebook posts showed such notable landmarks as Niagra Falls, the Empire State Building, the I-35 Bridge in Minneapolis, San Francisco City Hall and even Cinderella's castle at Disney brilliantly lit in celebration.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES:**"Keep Fighting", Plaintiff Jim Obergefell Says After Supreme Court Ruling About Gay Marriage**

The *Dallas Morning News* reports that as gay and lesbian couples got marriage licenses in downtown Dallas June 29, the man whose story helped inspire the landmark Supreme Court ruling stood yards away. Speaking outside the Dallas County clerk's office, Jim Obergefell urged GLBT activists and supporters to not sit back and rest on the laurels of the recent Supreme Court decision but to instead keep fighting for an end to discrimination in the workplace and in other aspects of their lives, calling for a push to enact federal nondiscrimination laws. Obergefell, whose name will go down in history as being part of the landmark ruling of *Obergefell v. Hodges*, found his place in the public arena simply because he wanted to be listed as the surviving spouse on his longtime partner and husband's death certificate. The couple had been legally married in Maryland, but when they returned home to Ohio, the state would not recognize their legal union and allow Obergefell to be listed on John Arthur's death certificate.

This set into motion the case that would eventually lead to the landmark ruling to allow legal same-sex marriage across the nation.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES:**Pride Parades Supercharged By Court Ruling On Marriage**

USA Today reports that some of the superlatives offered as revelers nationwide marched Sunday in gay pride parades supercharged by the historic Supreme Court ruling extending marriage rights to same-sex couples in all 50 states included words like 'historic', 'emotional', 'magical' and 'epic'. The mood was jubilant as thousands marched down Fifth Avenue in New York City, festooned with rainbow buttons and clothing, and waving rainbow flags, balloons and umbrellas as they celebrated the historic decision made by the SCOTUS only two days before. Many tearfully said that they never thought that they'd see this day in their lifetime, and that was a sentiment that was repeated over and over in Pride celebrations from New York to Chicago to Houston to Minneapolis to San Francisco and Seattle. Revelers admitted that there is still a ways to go before same-sex marriage is seen as being as unremarkable and ordinary as heterosexual marriage, and that there is still progress that needs to be made in the road to full equality and protection for the GLBT community in all aspects, but that this huge step was worthy of a grand celebration decades in the making.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM MINNESOTA:**Minneapolis Pride Parade Fills Streets With Rainbow Colors**

The *Pioneer Press* reports that, decked out in nearly every color of the rainbow, nearly 400,000 revelers packed the sidewalks along Hennepin Avenue in downtown Minneapolis to celebrate the GLBT community at the annual Twin Cities Pride parade. Over 100 entries rolled down Hennepin Avenue, and included local celebrities and politicians as well as floats and marching groups representing Target, 3M, OutFront Minnesota, PFLAG Twin Cities, and the Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus. The atmosphere at the weekend-long festival was especially ebullient, thanks to Friday's decision by the U.S. Supreme Court that granted marriage equality to same-sex couples, and the smiles and joy of those at Loring Park and along the parade route reflected the victorious and optimistic feeling. More than 400 booths filled the park, offering something for everyone who turned out with their families, children, friends, and pets to enjoy the weekend's festivities and musical performances.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES:**Big Brands Chime In On The SCOTUS Ruling On Gay Marriage**

The *American Genius* reports that when history was made when the Supreme Court ruled in favor of legalizing gay marriage nationwide, brands responded. Social media giants such as

Twitter and Facebook lit up with rainbows and hashtags such as #LoveWins, while many corporations made posts and tweets supporting the decision and celebrating the win for marriage equality for the GLBT community. Many brands such as Gap, MasterCard, Coca-Cola, American Airlines, AT&T and others also temporarily rainbow-tized their logos, and proudly announced their support for the landmark decision.

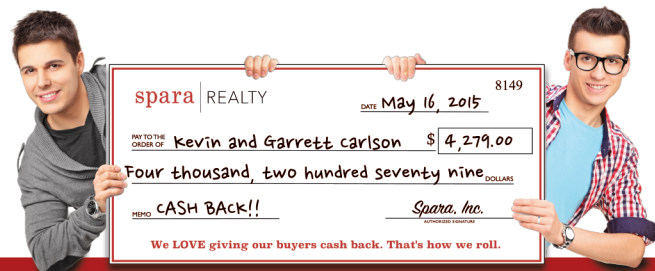
BIGGAYNEWS FROM TEXAS:**Texas Attorney General Says County Clerks Can Refuse Gay Couples Despite SCOTUS Ruling**

Religion News Service reports that county clerks in Texas who object to gay marriage can refuse to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples despite the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling requiring states to allow same-sex marriage. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton said on Sunday. Although the decision handed down by SCOTUS on Friday provided same-sex couples the right to wed in all fifty states, Paxton said that his office had received many inquiries from public officials on how to handle the question of issuing marriage licenses or conducting same-sex ceremonies if they themselves hold religious objections to doing so. Paxton assured those clerks that he will do everything in his power from his office to be a voice for those who stand by their convictions, and that numerous lawyers would be ready and willing to take on their cases should the need arise.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM MICHIGAN:**Ministers Won't Be Forced To Marry Gay Couples, Law Professor Says**

MLive reports that although the U.S. Supreme Court legalized gay marriage on June 26, ministers will not be forced to marry gay couples, said a professor who specializes in constitutional law. Devin Schindler, a professor for Western Michigan University's Cooley Law School, said that he does not foresee a change in the current laws in the state of Michigan, none of which would require a minister to perform a ceremony for a couple that they do not wish to marry. Churches are already allowed by the U.S. Constitution to set rules for memberships and practices, and Schindler says that he highly doubts there will be a push to force pastors, ministers, and other clergy to go against those rules in their own churches. However, the bigger question will be when it comes to judges performing marriages, and whether or not they will be under an obligation to marry same-sex couples if doing such would go against their religious beliefs. Schindler said that, in that case, "judges take an oath to uphold the Constitution, and so when they're acting in their official capacity, they're obligated to do what the Constitution requires." Schindler said that the main split on that issue would be that, while judges have the legal authority to perform marriages, there is still the question on whether they should be required to or not. ■

Now, that's what we call
a happy ending.



Rob Glynn, Realtor®
Partner/VP Sales and Marketing
(612) 290-2941
Rob@spararealty.com



BUYERS get 1% CASH BACK.
SELLERS pay 4.5% LOW RATE.

spara | REALTY



Porsche Macan. Forever the sport SUV.

At Porsche, we've never believed in bigger simply for the sake of size. Our sports cars have tended to be compact, no larger than needed to fulfill the aims of performance, comfort, and utility. There's an intensity of purpose to a Porsche that you can trace directly to this mindset. Test drive one today.

Macan. The first true compact sports SUV.

Porsche Of Minneapolis
9191 Wayzata Blvd.
Minneapolis, MN • 763-710-6040
minneapolis.porschedealer.com



PORSCHE



Denise Nix

Position: Income Tax Specialist
ROR Tax Professionals Since: 2/10/2014
Interesting Fact: I always wanted to be a gay man because I should've been born a queen.
Passion: Learning
Vice: Karaoke
Color: Pink



4500 Park Glen Road
Suite 425
St. Louis Park, MN 55416
p 612-822-7177 f 612-822-2163
RORTax.com



Attorneys Proudly Serving the **LGBTQ**
Community and all Allies.

612-333-3343

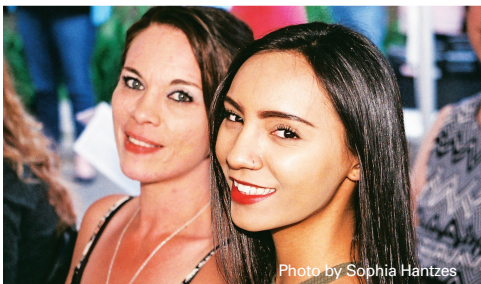
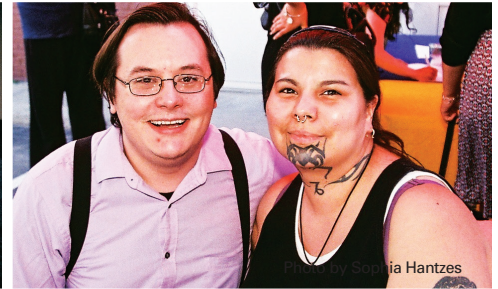


- **Workers' Compensation**
(There is no charge for attorneys' fees if there is no recovery)
- **Auto Accidents/ Personal Injury**
(There is no charge for attorneys' fees if there is no recovery)
- **Immigration/ Fiancé Visas**
- Same-sex couples can now receive immigration benefits with the repeal of DOMA
- **Family Law**

RA ROBICHAUD & ALCANTARA P.A.
www.robichaudlaw.com
Mention this ad for a free consultation.

OUR LAVENDER

LAVENDER LENS | PHOTOS BY SOPHIA HANTZES



OUR LAVENDER

LAVENDER LENS
PHOTOS BY SOPHIA HANTZES

WNBA'S CANDICE WIGGINS AT MINNESOTA AIDS PROJECT

JUNE 1, 2015

Photo by Sophia Hantzes



Photo by Sophia Hantzes



Photo by Sophia Hantzes



Photo by Sophia Hantzes



Photo by Sophia Hantzes

Opening July 20th. Gay-owned

Mill District DENTAL

Smile with **PRIDE**

NEW PATIENT OFFER:
\$89 Exam OR **FREE Whitening**
X-rays and cleaning with exam, x-rays and cleaning

612-877-8887 • www.milldistrictdental.com
1026 Washington Ave S, Suite 100 • Minneapolis

Brian Peters, DDS

The Finest of Luxury



MARQUETTE PLACE
Luxury Apartments

Luxury Living

1314 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612.339.9600
marquetteplace.com

740 RIVER DRIVE

Urban Contemporary

740 Mississippi River Blvd S
St. Paul, MN 55116
651.698.8866
740riverdrive.com

ONE TEN GRANT

Apartments on the Greenway

Contemporary Lifestyle

110 West Grant Street
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612.342.0110
onetengrant.com

Marquette Place, One Ten Grant, and 740 River Drive offer our residents a wide array of amenities, including 24-Hour concierge services, chauffeured car service, business centers, fitness centers, indoor/outdoor swimming pools and even complimentary continental breakfast Monday-Friday!

Unfurnished and furnished, long and short term rentals available.

LAVENDER'S FIRST Thursdays

The Twin Cities GLBT Community Happy Hour

PRESENTED BY:



ELITE
PRIVATE SEARCH

WHEN Thursday, August 6

TIME 5:30 - 8:00 PM

COST FREE

WHERE Red Cow - North Loop

208 1st Ave. N. • Minneapolis



RED COW
• fine burgers, beer & wine •



Come as you are – no dress code.
Enjoy Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres,
Drink Specials, and a chance to register
to Win Great Prizes!

FOUNDING HOST PARTNER ORGANIZATION
HRC Twin Cities

HOST ORGANIZATIONS

OutFront Minnesota, Twin Cities Quorum, MN AIDS Project,
Twin Cities Pride, One Voice, The Aliveness Project, Reclaim!,
Mixed Blood Theatre, Minneapolis Movie Bears, Freedom Jazz,
Prime Timers MSP, North Country Bears, MN Freedom Band,
TCGMC, HCMC's LGBT & Allies Employee Resource Group

OUR LAVENDER

"BEAR" WITH ME (WHILE I TELL YOU ABOUT)...

| BY BARRY LEAVITT



Photo courtesy of ARENA Dances

ARENA BIKINI'S OASIS POOL PARTY

July 12 • 3:00–7:00 p.m.

**Calhoun Beach Club • 2925 Dean Parkway,
Minneapolis**

Grab your towels, ARENA Dances hosts its 8th Annual ARENA Bikini! And this year, they're taking the fashions poolside. ARENA Bikini is an annual benefit for ARENA Dances, one of the Twin Cities' acclaimed modern dance companies. Models will feature beachwear designs poolside by local designers and boutiques, including Adrienne Yancy of Ariel Simone, Atmosfere, MINQ, Prana, Rainbow Road, Second Debut, and hip fashion sunglasses from Maple Grove Pearle Vision. The evening also includes signature cocktails, and, best of all, Hollywood "Busby Berkley" style performances from ARENA Dances. Tickets are \$25 and available at www.showclix.com and at the door. The first 100 people to purchase tickets will receive a luxurious beach towel courtesy of Calhoun Square.

VINTAGE DOG DAY

July 18 • 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

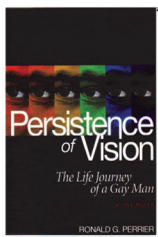
Junket • 4049 Minnehaha Ave., Minneapolis

Let's face it: as a community, we love our dogs. But the harsh reality is that senior dogs get a bad rap. Vintage Dog Day serves as a celebration of senior dogs and an opportunity for rescue organizations to get exposure for some of their older fosters. Each shop along the Minnehaha Mile pairs up with a rescue organization, and the rescue brings an older dog(s) to meet and greet at each shop. Here is where things get even more fun — adoptions are encouraged! Search "Vintage Dog Day @ Junket" on Facebook for more information. ■

Book Signing at the Saloon - Fire Bar
830 Hennepin Avenue
Friday July 17 6:00-10:00 pm



Dr. Ronald G. Perrier is a professor emeritus of theatre and film studies at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota, where he taught for the last 27 years of his 40-year teaching career.



Persistence of Vision and *Septembers* are memoirs of Dr. Perrier's life as a gay man spanning the eras of GLBT suppression and expression.

Come, meet Dr. Ronald G. Perrier and have him sign your copy of his new book *Septembers-SENIOR MUSES OF A GAY MAN*. You may also purchase and have him sign your copy of his earlier work *Persistence of Vision-THE LIFE JOURNEY OF A GAY MAN*

Visit the website: www.archiepub.com

You're invited to throw a party

Offering a private boardroom for 10,
a semi-private area for 24
and a private room for 40

\$50 GIFT CARD FOR THE PARTY HOST*
WHEN YOU BOOK A PARTY OF 20 OR MORE
BY 12/30/15

The Melting Pot®
a fondue restaurant

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED • MELTINGPOT.COM
(612) 338-9900 • 80 S. 9TH ST., MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402
*See store for details or restrictions.

Move Forward Faster

Life moves faster at Comcast, where the convergence of media and technology is rapidly reinventing our workplace and the world around us. We're driven by innovation, passion and an entrepreneurial spirit that pushes us to build amazing things. We never stand still and neither will anyone who joins us.

OUTSIDE SALES ASSOCIATE OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

9:00AM, 12:00PM, 3:00PM, or 6:30PM

10 River Park Plaza

St. Paul, MN 55107

Please pre-register by sending resumes to: sarah_mihalow@cable.comcast.com

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- > A high school diploma or equivalent is required
- > Must possess a valid driver's license
- > Strong communication skills and ability to build rapport
- > Excellent customer service skills and ability
- > Sales experience is a plus

PERKS

- > Competitive base salary plus commission
- > Comprehensive benefits package
- > Discounted XFINITY services

FAST FORWARD TO TOMORROW'S
NEXT BIG IDEA.
COMCAST.JOBS/STPAUL



Comcast is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Drug-Free workplace employer.

A Brand You Can Trust



With just one phone call to Garlock-French, you get skilled Roofing Solutions, Roof Maintenance, Chimney Repair, Cedar Preservation, Custom Sheet Metal, even Solar options.

At Garlock-French, we understand the importance of blending design, craftsmanship, with good customer service. And, we guarantee our work.

We've been up on roofs longer, and it shows.

Roofing, Chimneys, Sheet Metal & more

Call us at 612-722-7129

2301 East 25th St., Minneapolis • Garlock-French.com
MN License #BC001423



NEW OUTDOOR HOT SPOTS

BY JOY SUMMERS

As the summer sun dips low on the horizon, there is no better place to be than a beautiful patio, surrounded by friends, a goblet of wine in hand and plates of delicious food dotting the table. Lucky for us diners, there have been several new spots that have opened since last year, plus some favorite restaurants who have added outdoor dining to the repertoire. Whether the occasion calls for an intimate setting, big beers, a bevy of hipster man top-knots, killer french fries, craft cocktails, boisterous noise, or the quiet hum of the cicadas, there is a new outdoor dining spot perfectly suited.

SURLY

www.surlybrewing.com

It's the granddaddy of all beer halls and there is no wonder it took so long to get this brewery from the original Robbinsdale adjacent location to the Minneapolis monolith that stands today. Surly is many things, but subtle has never been the case — for the brewery or the beers. Inside the lower level, there's a wall that opens up to communal seating, a fire pit, and plenty of brews for everybody. The menu is created to complement all the beer, so it's hearty, with powerful flavors packed on plates built to share. Upstairs at the newly opened Brewer's Table, there are small plates more artfully presented with incredible flavors served on a balcony that overlooks the outdoor space below. Downstairs, do not miss the hog fries. Upstairs, the octopus is possibly the best in town.

JOAN'S IN THE PARK

www.joansinthepark.com

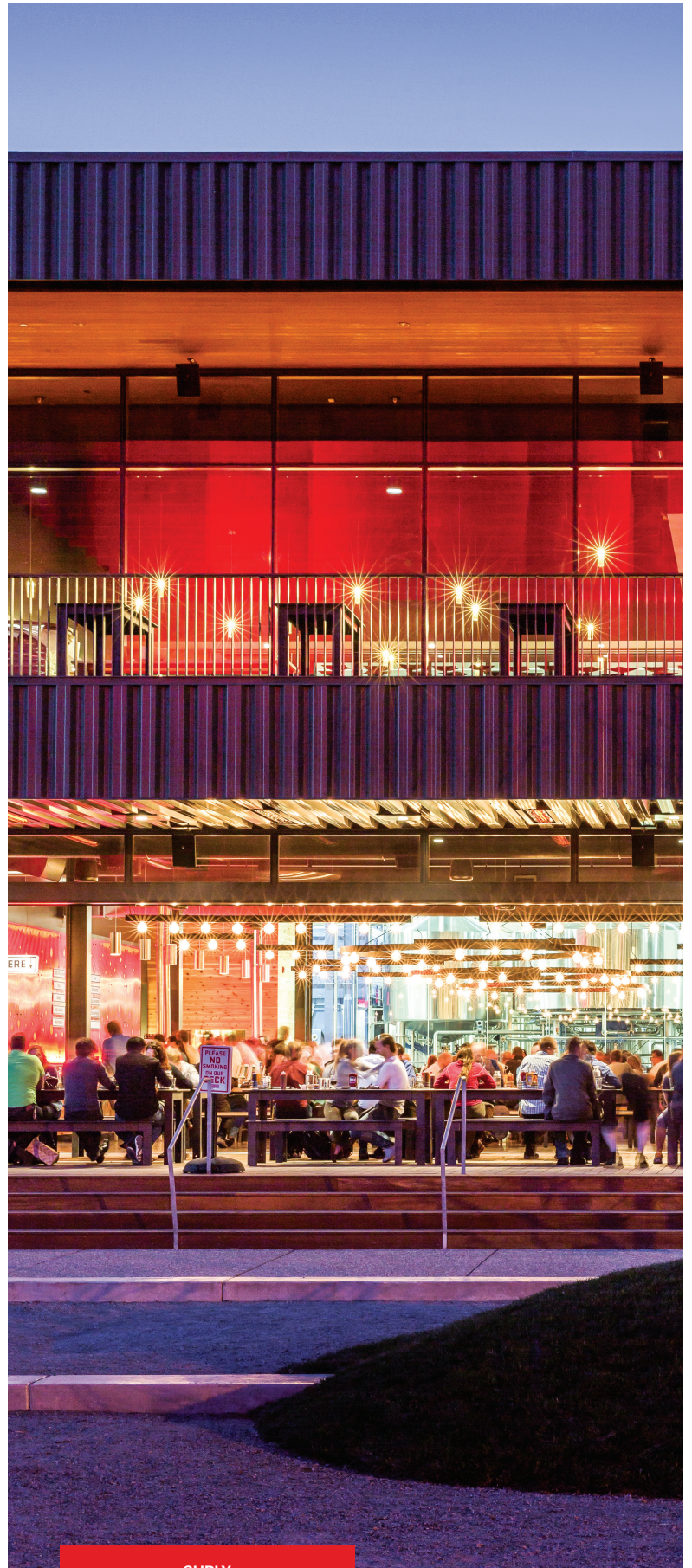
We've been enamored with Joan Schmitt and Susan Dunlop since they first opened their Highland Park restaurant. Dunlop's food draws on classic steakhouse fare with a light, elegant touch. (The dish of the summer is the lobster salad with crispy pig ears.) Schmitt's hospitality is warm and polished without ever feeling overly formal. The patio space next door to the restaurant is set comfortably back from Snelling Avenue with deliciously comfortable chairs and an airy, light setting.

BRADSTREET NEIGHBORHOOD CRAFTSHOUSE

www.bradstreetcraftshouse.com

What was once a first floor hotel dwelling has blossomed into a welcome neighborhood dining destination — with a glorious patio. Bradstreet

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20 ➔



SURLY

Photo by Paul Crosby

FOR SALE

Sale Price: \$675,000



LAVENDER Magazine Building

3715 Chicago Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55407-2610

A mid century two level office building at the NE quadrant of Chicago Avenue South and East 38th Street.

Rock solid and well maintained! Lots of onsite parking!

Good central location in South Minneapolis on transportation corridors with easy access to:

35W • Abbot Northwestern Medical Campus • Downtown Minneapolis • 38th Street light rail station • MSP airport

Nicely positioned in a revitalizing neighborhood with many nearby amenities!

For more information on this property, please contact

GREG MALTBY

612-922-0140 • gmalby@mcremn.com

MCRE

MALTBY COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

AMERICAN GLASS & MIRROR
for luxury shower doors



CLEAN LINES.
CLEAR CHOICE.

AMERICANGLASSANDMIRROR.COM 952.447.3151



3800 37TH AVE S, MINNEAPOLIS | (612) 724-9895 | WWW.FIREROASTCAFE.COM

SUMMER SALE

Now Through Labor Day



Haskell's proudly supports the Twin Cities LGBTQ community.

We can help with your wedding receptions, bridal showers, summer parties or any celebration where wine, beer and spirits will be served.



Bloomington • Chanhassen • Excelsior • Faribault • Maple Grove • Minneapolis • Minnetonka
Plymouth • Saint Paul • Stillwater • White Bear Lake • Woodbury • haskells.com

burger moe's

BEST BURGER in TOWN!

Two Happy Hours
7 days a week!
3-6pm and 9pm-1am

\$1 Off All Bottled Beer & Cocktails
\$5 Off All Buckets O' Beer
\$2 Off All Burgers After 9pm

Enjoy \$3 Martinis During Happy Hour on Monday & Tuesdays!
**Not applicable during Xcel Energy Center events

Close to the Xcel Energy Center & The Ordway | www.burgermoes.com
242 West 7th Street | Saint Paul, MN 55102 | 651.222.3100



Photo courtesy of Sandcastle

SANDCASTLE

now occupies the old Rye Deli space (before that Auriga) on Hennepin Avenue. The interior bar is sleek and dimly lit. The gorgeous makeover provides plenty of nooks and crannies for canoodling or catching up with old friends. However, the star of the summer is the outdoor space that affords skyline views of downtown Minneapolis. Begin with an order of the togarashi spiced french fries and an expertly crafted cocktail, and enjoy the glory of this fleeting season.

SANDCASTLE

www.sandcastlempls.com

What was once just a little lake-side commissary has become a neighborhood gathering spot. With each year the space has blossomed. Skip the indomitable lines at that other park restaurant spot and hang out with the cool kids here instead. You'll have much shorter wait times for your Dog Flicker (named for co-owner, chef Doug Flicker) or an order of the fried chicken (served only on Friday). The horchata is always a treat, but the newly finished

adjacent seating area allows for grownup beer and wine pours for sipping as well. Plus, they serve breakfast beginning at 10:00 a.m. on the weekends.

NIGHTHAWKS

www.nighthawksmpls.com

Landon Schoenefeld's new diner on the hopping Nicollet Avenue affords space outside to catch the goings on and wrap a couple of hands around the enormous pastrami sandwich. Settle into the bright orange chairs and give a wave to neighboring Five Watt Coffee's patio dwellers. The neighborhood gets friendlier by the minute.

COMO DOCKSIDE

www.comodockside.com

Grab a little taste of New Orleans on the shores of Como Lake in St. Paul. The owners of the 331 Club and Amsterdam have branched out and taken over this little eatery. Grab a massive shrimp po' boy and let the good times roll. Be certain to check the schedule for a little live musical accompaniment.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22 →

NIGHTHAWKS

Photo by Hubert Bonnet





CRAFT SPIRITS
SALES & MARKETING

The SeaBreeze with pokpok som

INGREDIENTS

for each cocktail, you will need:
2 tablespoons PokPok Som Drinking Vinegar in Tamarind flavor
1 teaspoon ginger juice (we sell this)
splash of lime juice
ice
sparkling water
lime slices and fresh basil leaves for garnish

DIRECTIONS

For each cocktail, in a glass, stir together PokPok Som Drinking Vinegar, ginger juice, and lime juice. (this can be batched for quick preparation) Add ice to fill the glass almost full. Pour in sparkling water to fill glass. Garnish with lime slices and fresh basil leaves.
If you want to make this an alcoholic drink, go ahead and add about 1 shot of Gin, vodka or Tequila.

For more awesome recipes, craft spirits and unique mixers check out:
www.amcraftspirits.com/recipes-videos

ELEMENT
WOOD FIRE PIZZA

96 BROADWAY ST. NE
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55413
(612) 379-3028
WWW.ELEMENTPIZZA.COM
Bring this ad in and receive 10% off your order.

D'AMICO
CATERING

612.238.4444 damico.com

Lunchtime Delivery Everywhere

Box Lunches: In by 10, there by noon
Deli Trays: Just 24 hours notice

561 South Cleveland, St. Paul • 651.698.0334 fax: 651.699.2303

CHARMING NEIGHBORHOOD ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Happy Hour • Half-Price Wine • Pasta Bar Lunch
Catering • Carryout • Venetian Inspired Banquet Room

LA CUCINA DI
Nonna Rosa's
RISTORANTE ITALIANO

Sun-Mon 11am-9pm Tues-Sat 11am-10pm
4168 W Broadway Ave. | Robbinsdale | 763-537-3700
www.nonnarosaswinebar.com

ROBUST ★ UNIQUE
BOLD ★ SATISFYING

WINES

JUST LIKE
OUR AWARD-WINNING
BURGERS

30+ HAND SELECTED WINES SERVED DAILY

RED COW
• fine burgers, beer & wine •
RedCowMN.com
Order online at RedCowMN.com

NORTH LOOP 208 1st Ave N 612.238.0050	MINNEAPOLIS 3624 W 50th 612.767.4411	ST PAUL 393 Selby 651.789.0545
---------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------



SPOON & STABLE

SPOON AND STABLE

www.spoonandstable.com

Because it just isn't a Minneapolis restaurant roundup without mentioning Gavin Kaysen's little slice of pretty in the North Loop. The menu has continued to evolve and now that the temperatures have traveled upwards, the front garage door is flung open. The bar staff is at the top of their game, pouring perfectly balanced twists on classic cocktails. Snag one of the coveted seats for the new brunch service, order the best Tom Collins around, and dig into the hearty, elegant, early day menu.

PILGRIMAGE CAFÉ

www.pilgrimagecafe.com

The patio outside of this restaurant location has always been lovely, but now that the globally inspired menu from Pilgrimage is served here, it's even better. Mussels swimming in a creamy curry bath accompanied by a crisp, cool white wine makes any good summer evening great.

TINTO COCINA

www.tintompls.com

Teeny tacos taste better outside and the patio space at this Lake Street eatery which is a perfect setting to sample these bites served on house-made tortillas. Even seated inside, it still feels like you're out in the summer air (without the bugs). Cradle a margarita and order a few more rounds of small plates to share with friends, these nights don't last forever. ■

Photo by Chef Gavin Kaysen



ANNOUNCING

Jakeeno's
Pizza & Pasta
... since 1975 ...

**Check out our NEW
Larger Patio and our
2 Happy Hours**

612.825.6827
3555 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis



PILGRIMAGE
globally inspired comfort food

Lunch and Dinner, Tuesday thru Sunday
Brunch Friday thru Sunday
2 for 1 happy hour beer and wine
\$5 happy hour appetizers

Follow on Facebook and Twitter

WWW.PILGRIMAGECAFE.COM
2403 E. 38th St. • Minneapolis 55406 • 612-729-0034



Bringing the traditional catering back to the Twin Cities

Joel Frampton, Owner/Caterer

ALL ABOUT YOU!
CATERING & DELI

4747 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis
612-824-4653 • www.allaboutyoucateringanddeli.com



OFFICIAL PRE-PARTY HQ
Lavender's Out in the Stands

JULY 24 5:30-7:30 PM
Tin Whiskers Taproom | 125 E. 9th St. St. Paul

www.twbrewing.com

*Integrity
Experience
Results*

JERRY A. BURG
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Over 20 Years Experience in:
Family Law | Criminal Defense
Employment Law

3009 Holmes Ave. S. • Minneapolis
(612) 822-0865
www.jerryaburg.com




eat good FOOD
it's that simple.

OUR NEWEST LOCATION
3808 West 50th Street
Minneapolis • 612-927-4464

The 50TH Street Cafe

The UPTOWN Diner
Hennepin Ave. & West 26th
Minneapolis • 612-874-0481

The Louisiana Cafe
Selby & Dale
Saint Paul • 651-221-9140

The WOODBURY Cafe
Bielenberg & Tamarack
Woodbury • 651-209-8182

The Grandview Grill
Grand Ave. & Fairview
Saint Paul • 651-698-2346



OUTDOOR DINING IN MINNEAPOLIS FOR THE 'MO IN THE KNOW

BY BRADLEY TRAYNOR

The Twin Cities doesn't afford the lengthiest of outdoor dining seasons, but it does boast one of the most prolific. And the former is responsible, in part, for the latter. When the sun's out, everybody wants to dine out. And, boy, do we. There's quite literally an outdoor lunch, brunch, dinner, happy hour, etc. for any speed, scene, or occasion. Casual, formal, trendy, hipster, you name it. For the outdoor dining 'moin-the-know, I've picked four ideal outdoor dining experiences for those who want to see and be seen.

UPTOWN – MINNEAPOLIS

THE ROOFTOP AT LIBERTINE

Patios abound in Uptown and while your options may be many, those with amazing food may not. My money's on Libertine. Great crowd and great food, along with a great view combine to earn it top Uptown outdoor dining honors in my book. Happy hours every day from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., as well as 10:00 p.m. to midnight, Sunday through Thursday. And don't miss brunches both Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A virgin bloody mary with a plate of chicken and waffles? YAS! Unless you're trying to impress someone and not eating. P.S. Don't do that.

www.libertinempls.com

DOWNTOWN – MINNEAPOLIS

UNION ROOFTOP

Nothing beats a view of downtown Minneapolis at sunset and Union Rooftop offers just that, as well as a much-needed

chance to unwind with a cocktail and munchies after a busy day. Don't skip out on Solar Breakfast/Brunch on Sundays either from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Bottomless mimosas and a nosh, all the while overlooking Hennepin Theatre District's Pantages, State, and Orpheum Theatres? What's not to love? Happy hour daily from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

www.unionrooftop.com

NORTH LOOP – MINNEAPOLIS

THE PATIO AT RED COW

Nary a week goes by I don't find myself in the North Loop. And usually for food. There's plenty of yum, but outdoor dining isn't everywhere this side of Downtown. Luckily, there's a perfect patio calling your name. The wafting smell of charbroiled burgers is also calling your name. Beautiful, amazing, trustmeyouwant-thisinyourmouth burgers. Grab your buddies after a softball game or meet a friend for a

drink. If brunch is your thing, go for it. Bonus, they welcome dogs on their patio too! No, not your friend Kyle; your actual dog. Happy hour daily from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., then 10:00 p.m. to close.

www.redcowmn.com

NORTHEAST – MINNEAPOLIS

THE PATIO AT LUSH FOOD BAR

Ever a great spot to grab a drink and unwind with friends in Northeast, the patio at Lush Food Bar also offers a wonderful brunch option with traditional eats and cocktails for days. Cinnamon roll french toast, a fancy shmancy Bellini, and a few gossip-laden friends to catch up with and your Sunday Funday is golden. If you're in the neighborhood on a weeknight, stop by for a quick happy hour or extend that happy hour right into a full on night out on the town.

www.lushfoodbar.com



Photo by Peter Jenelle



LIBERTINE

Photo by Jenya Karpitskiy



TWO PAWS UP: DOG-FRIENDLY PATIOS

BY SHANE LUECK

Minnesotans love their pets, it's no secret. Thankfully, Minnesota joined the civilized world a few years ago by lifting the ban on eating with dogs at restaurants. Since then, scores of restaurants and bars have opened their patios to Canine Americans and their people. Grab a leash and come hungry; as there are plenty of patios that are dog-friendly — some even offer a special menu for your furry friend.

But, hurry! Minnesota weather only allows for a couple months before these patios close their doors to dogs (and humans) until next spring.

BREAD AND PICKLE

4135 W. Lake Harriet Parkway,
Minneapolis

www.breadandpickle.com

You can find Bread and Pickle at the Bandshell on Lake Harriet. The restaurant uses local ingredients with a menu focusing on seasonal hot and cold sandwiches, burgers, and salads. Jog over with your dog on sunny mornings for breakfast sandwiches, scrambles, scones, fruit, muffins, and the restaurant's homemade dog treats; a dollar a bag.

FAT LORENZO'S

5600 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis

www.fatlorenzos.com

After a walk around Lake Nokomis, bring your dog to this award-winning Italian pizza, pasta, and hoagie restaurant on the edge of South Minneapolis. Fat Lorenzo's chewy crust pizzas have been drawing customers to their doors for the last 27 years. You've probably seen their red awning and the bright murals painted by Twin Cities artist Ed Charbonneau. Dogs can sit at tables at this corner restaurant and bark hello at other dogs in passing cars. Share a bite of your meal with your dog, or order your pup a single meatball — the folks here are happy to oblige.



Photo by Don Pitlik

FAT LORENZO'S

FIRST COURSE

5607 Chicago Ave. S., Minneapolis

www.firstcoursempls.com

First Course is a Nokomis neighborhood restaurant across from Todd Park and is

known for its upscale bistro menu and a casual vibe. On warm evenings (or during the weekend brunch) you can bring your dog and sit under their Prussian blue patio umbrellas

on the cozy sidewalk-turned-terrace. The full-service wait staff loves the dogs, bringing bowls of cold water for your pooch and, sometimes, taking their photos.

GALAXY DRIVE-IN

3712 Quebec Ave. S., St. Louis Park
www.galaxy-drivein.com
Located in the former Wagner's space, the Galaxy Drive-In invites you to come have an "intergalactic, retrofuturistic, and pet-friendly dining experience." If you don't know what to make of that, don't worry — all you need to know is that your dogs will have a great time. Every dog visitor gets a cute, puppy-size vanilla ice cream cone. If you really want to spoil your pet, the menu has a "Doggie Treat" section that includes biscuits (\$1), burgers (\$2.25), and all-beef hot dogs (\$2.25). Galaxy focuses on burgers, hot dogs, fries, onion rings, and fountain drinks with plates of ribs, fried chicken, and cheese curds also on the menu. Eat in your car or on Galaxy's picnic tables on grassy areas designed to make dogs happy. There are fire pits — come on Saturday nights for the bonfires and roasting marshmallows.

HOLA AREPA

3501 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis
www.holaarepa.com
Whether you visit the food truck or the brick and mortar storefront, Hola Arepa is serving their take on Latin cuisine in the streets of Minneapolis. If you couldn't guess from the name, Hola Arepa specializes in Venezuelan stuffed arepas (the perfect vehicle for the delicious Latin-style fillings). The arepas are handmade fresh every day from cornmeal dough, made into patties, and cooked on the griddle. Cooked dough? Enough for anyone, but then it is filled with meats, veggies, cheese, and topped with homemade salsas. Just ask them: all of their food is made from scratch "with a whole lot of love."

ICEHOUSE

2528 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis
www.icehouseempls.com
Plan a romantic afternoon or evening on the patio with your canine friend (and others), overlooking the Icehouse Courtyard. Escape from Minneapolis while still being in the

heart of the city. But plan carefully! Patio is first come/first serve only — no reservations for this little slice of heaven! Icehouse features a two-story fixture with American cuisine, drinks, and live music in an industrial-chic space.



LONGFELLOW GRILL



Photos by Sydney Gerten

LONGFELLOW GRILL

2990 West River Parkway, Minneapolis
www.longfellowgrill.com
Longfellow boasts, "We're an urban diner. Real people serving real food," and that they are! At the Longfellow Grill, they serve fresh, always made-from-scratch fare. If you're on the lookout for something savory, slightly unexpected, and addictive for breakfast, lunch, or dinner, Longfellow might be the place for you. From fish tacos and sweet potato fries to their award-winning turkey



Photo courtesy of Pizzeria Lola

PIZZERIA LOLA

burger, banana waffle, and hashbrowns, you're bound to become a regular. They'll be the first to tell you: Longfellow Grill is a comfortable joint, the kind of place that feels like a second home. Only with better french fries, a better view, and your dog, too.

LUCIA'S RESTAURANT AND WINE BAR

1432 W. 31st St., Minneapolis
www.lucias.com
At Lucia's, humans aren't the only ones who get to enjoy local, organic, and beautifully crafted food. Pooches dining on this patio are treated to biscuits made from Lucia's house-made chicken stock. If that wasn't enough, Lucia's patio also boasts a custom-built "Dog Bar," a glass-tiled fountain that not only looks cool but provides fresh, cold water at dog level.

NOMAD WORLD PUB

501 Cedar Ave., Minneapolis
www.nomadpub.com
It doesn't get any better for dogs than Nomad World Pub, located near the university's West Bank. Choose between the two patios (one cozy, one really huge,) with bocce courts, a stone fireplace, and an outside bar. Some members of Nomad's staff bring their own dogs to work. Nomad also hosts off-leash parties and dog rescue fundraisers, including one called "Beer with Your Buddy." Only precaution: you may want to think twice about bringing your dog after 10:00 p.m., what with loud music that can hurt the dog's ears.

NORTHBOUND BREWHOUSE

2716 E. 38th St., Minneapolis
www.northboundbrewpub.com
Minneapolis loves its craft beers, there's no doubt about it. Northbound is a full-service restaurant with an on-site craft brewery (I know, right?!). In 2012, Northbound opened with the hopes of being a cozy neighborhood bar and they haven't let us down. Virtually everything on the menu is smoked, from turkey, beef, and pork to cheese and eggs while the beer has received great acclaim for being edgy, full-flavored and overall well-executed. Stop by with your dog for a menu where the appetizers are just as great as the entrees.

PIZZERIA LOLA

5557 Xerxes Ave. S., Minneapolis
www.pizzerialola.com
Not many things could be more endearing than a business named after a beloved pet. Years ago, Ann Kim, inspired by the pure love of food, joy, and her mother's own delicious cooking, quit her day job, opened an artisan pizza place, and named it after her dog. There's no need to be overly patriotic here, but is there anything more American than that? While Lola can be exceptionally busy, the pizza and the patio are well worth the wait. The handmade cedar picnic tables are spacious and comfortable, with plenty of room for your pup to rest at your feet while you're enjoying your dinner. After your dog has gobbled up the complimentary treats from the staff, take them over to the special water station and let them rehydrate.



Photo by Abernathy Photo

SALUT ON GRAND



Photo courtesy of Sandcastle

SANDCASTLE

SALUT ON GRAND

917 Grand Ave., St. Paul
www.salutbaramericain.com

The French bistro around the corner, Salut sets the stage for dining that is fun, delicious, and romantic with a Francophile atmosphere. If the Salut frog with a beret wasn't enough to draw you in, the dog-friendly patio should. Brush up on your French vocabulary and bring a date. It's all tongue in cheek. The ideal repast can be anything from a dish with lusty flavor to a heart-warming classic.

SANDCASTLE

4955 W. Lake Nokomis Parkway, Minneapolis
www.sandcastlempls.com
 Located at the main beach of Lake Nokomis, the little building was once a place for kids to get ice cream bars and candy until Chef Doug Flicker took it over. The menu includes a BLT, sweet pea falafel wrap, a



Photo courtesy of Stanley's

STANLEY'S

BBQ pork sandwich, ceviche, and two kinds of hot dogs. Sip wine, beer, and cider as you watch the airplanes land and the ducks waddle. Dogs can stretch out under the table.

SEA SALT EATERY

4801 Minnehaha Ave. S., Minneapolis
www.seasalteatery.wordpress.com
 Sea Salt is located in Minnehaha Park, so go for a walk to work up a big appetite — you're going to need it. The seafood-based, seasonal restaurant focuses a bit on upscale foods (oysters on the half shell, Andouille soup, po'boy sandwiches, Thai red curry shrimp with pineapple, and their famous fish tacos). There's no lake, but it's located right next to Minnehaha Falls, and the creek and the park are beautiful.

STANLEY'S

2500 University Ave. NE, Minneapolis
www.stanleysbarroom.com
 "Yappy Hour" — need I say more? Many places offer a doggie menu, but there is now a happy hour for your dog, and it's at Stanley's. Some of these dog entrees sound like meals you'd like to enjoy yourself. Take this one: six-ounce baked chicken breast served on a bed of organic jasmine brown rice, veggies, and sweet potatoes. The K-9 Chicken starts the human's salivary glands working

on overdrive, so imagine what the human menu has to offer!

SWEENEY'S SALOON

96 N. Dale St., St. Paul
www.sweeneyssaloon.com
 Sweeney's Saloon has bar food, sandwiches, burgers, and an extensive choice of beers, wine, and liquors. Your dog will love their beautiful patio, which is a multi-level outdoor space with a large stone fireplace, a canopy of trees, heaters for chilly nights, and a full outside bar. The patio can get crowded, especially during happy hour, but if your dog doesn't mind you'll both have a great time.

TIN FISH

3000 E. Calhoun Parkway, Minneapolis
www.tinfishmpls.com
 Located on Lake Calhoun, Tin Fish has a large and varied menu that includes conch, calamari, crab cakes, fish tacos and sandwiches, grilled and fried fish and seafood, a variety of chicken dishes, and even some 10 oz. burgers. It's actually part of a chain, but it doesn't seem that way. Place an order at the counter (lines can be long), then find a table and your server will find you. The large patio on the lake is beautiful and you can find scores of people and their dogs watching the sunsets and sailboats. But, when the dogs



Photo by Hubert Bonnet

SEA SALT EATERY

come to the window they have to sit to get a treat.

WILDE ROAST CAFE

65 Main St. SE, Minneapolis
www.wilderroastcafe.com
 The Wilde Roast Cafe is a neighborhood restaurant with an updated Victorian feel, but it's not your typical cafe. Named after Oscar Wilde, a man with eccentric tastes that were ahead of his time; he favored velvet breeches and peacock feathers (a motif that you'll see in the restaurant). Breakfast, lunch, and dinner menus feature an array of sandwiches, individual-sized pizzas, appetizers, and other great comfort food. Sit on the patio with your dog and enjoy the sunshine. The Wilde Roast owner's latest venture, Mattie's on Main, is just next door and also offers a dog-friendly patio with plans to host a weekly "Happy Woof Hour!" at Mattie's patio, so be on the lookout for that to roll out in the (hopefully) near future. ■

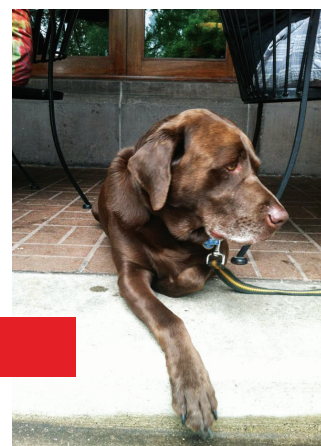


Photo courtesy of Wilde Roast Cafe

WILDE ROAST CAFE



ICEHOUSE
— MPLS. MINN. —

2528 NICOLLET AVE SOUTH • MINNEAPOLIS
612.276.6523

OPEN FOR LUNCH, BRUNCH, DINNER AND LATE NIGHT.
MUSIC 7 DAYS/WEEK



**Second Chance
Animal Rescue**

A nonprofit 501(c)(3) all volunteer dog and cat rescue organization

www.secondchancerescue.org
P.O. Box 10533
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
651-771-5662

Help Save a Life
ADOPT ~ FOSTER ~ DONATE

**BIG
GAY
NEWS
★.COM**

Follow us
@biggaynews



FUN CITY DOGS

Daycare & No Cage Boarding
15,000 sq ft of indoor and outdoor space
Webcams • 24 - hour supervision
South MPLS

612-722-3647
www.funcitydogs.com

Where a dog can be a dog!



**MORE THAN
MUSIC**



89.3
the current
THECURRENT.ORG



**STOP IN FOR A
FREE TOUR!**

DOWNTOWN DOGS

Downtown Minneapolis' Best Dog Daycare & Dog Boarding!
821 2nd Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55405 • www.dtdogs.com
Call 612-374-3647
[612-374-DOGS]



POSH PUPPY: NEW PET-FRIENDLY HOTEL STAY

BY SHANE LUECK



(Left to right): The Beacon Public House's cinnamon banana French toast breakfast. The geek-chic style of the hotel is ever-present in the guest rooms with a blue plaid accent wall. Enjoy the Beacon's flaky maple glazed salmon for dinner. The Commons Hotel is set in the heart of the University of Minnesota's Minneapolis campus, with the downtown skyline present in the background. Photos courtesy of The Commons Hotel.

Travel: we all do it at one point or another. How much do you pay for a dog-sitter? What about pet boarding? And after you pay those fees, how much time of your vacation is spent worrying about how your pet is doing, constantly texting for updates like, "Did you remember to give him his medicine?" How much would you pay for that peace of mind and the companionship of your pet on your travels?

The Commons Hotel in Minneapolis recently launched their new SmartPAWS Pet Program that invites four-legged friends to enjoy the same hospitality that their humans receive while traveling for \$50 per night. Immediately upon checking in, it's clear that The Commons Hotel team adores pets and is most definitely aware of the emerging trend of guests wanting to travel with their pets. As long as your dog or cat is less than 50 pounds, they will be welcomed with open arms at The Commons Hotel.

"We saw we would be

having a dog staying with us and we all got excited!" I was cheerfully told upon checking in. And those aren't just words to placate the guest; the staff genuinely loves animals. The same enthusiasm for my one-year-old puppy, Armani, continued throughout my stay.

It became a game to see how far I could get through the lobby each time he needed a walk before someone would stop and ask to pet him (which Armani ate up, that little performer). Even the room service staff couldn't wait to set down their tray to give Armani a rub down! Each knock on the door or trip through the lobby was a chance for Armani to strut his stuff and he knew the staff would respond.

The SmartPAWS program allows our best friend to become our best travel buddy, with benefits ensured to make guests' pets feel right at home. And the program is seamlessly worked into the décor and branding of the hotel. Incorporating a theme of contrasts by its collegiate

ties to the nearby University of Minnesota and industrial history of the Twin Cities, the 304-room property gives nod to the geek-chic persona that ensures a comfortable stay for guests and their pets. The Commons Hotel finds the perfect balance between geek and chic with flights of local brew and alchemist mixology lessons at The Beacon Public House, combined with complimentary in-room book deliveries from the resident Book Butler.

Similarly, canines and felines embrace their inner nerds with the variety of pet perks including geek-chic goodies and doggie-dining options available for in-room delivery via the resident Bark Butler. Encouraging guests to pamper themselves and their furry companions, the program rolls out the red carpet at their home away from home with plush, argyle-patterned pet beds, food and water bowls, and an exclusive floor for guests and their pets to enjoy (you'll find all of the pet owners in third floor rooms).

Taking an adventure during your stay has never been easier with the provided dog walking map and door tags letting housekeeping know to "Make Up My Room, Dog & Kitty Out Exploring" (or the opposite: "Do Not Disturb, Dog & Kitty Dreaming"). Mentioned earlier, the Bark Butler is at your service to bring your pet any food or treats that you may have left at home (or just a special treat, should you feel they deserve one). All menu items should always be in stock, but if there is an influx of pets staying in the hotel, the staff will happily run out to restock the supply for you and get exactly what you ordered.

For the human travelers, the hotel's Beacon Public House offers the nourishment a weary traveler needs. The Beacon Public House is The Commons' new signature restaurant, giving diners an alternative to the local chain and fast-casual restaurants. Here you can find regional-influenced gastropub cuisine, blending local product

and character into a refined menu — all with a strong sense of local identity. Beacon is proud to say that all of their vegetables are from the farmer's market that is held on the University of Minnesota campus, and the rest of their offerings have regional origins as well.

The bar menu features small-plate fare with bold flavors, accompanied by a serious mixology program of "Classic Reinvented Cocktails". The beer menu is designed to showcase the diverse craft of brewing while specifically honoring local brews and the wine list is sure to please every wine drinker from novice to sommelier alike.

The Beacon is paying homage to the local Minneapolis foodways, devoting itself to the fine combination of great mixology, good times and superior Minneapolis cooking. It is a less expensive, casual alternative to the more upscale downtown Minneapolis restaurants. A nirvana for under-financed foodies.

Order the maple-glazed salmon for a trip to taste bud heaven. Pan-seared salmon, curried squash, and pumpkin seed pesto will be your escorts on the way to this heaven, and it would be pure sin not to follow it up with the apple bread and butter pudding. But seriously, caramelized milk and buttermilk ice cream come with this already decadent sweet treat, so how could you not? My mouth is watering just thinking of it all over again. The only downside to the Beacon Public House is that access to the patio requires walking through the restaurant, ensuring that the patio isn't pet-friendly.

After spending a night in the geek-chic room (Blue plaid accent wall? Yes, please!), breakfast at the Beacon will give you a satisfactory start to your day. You can't beat the cinnamon banana French toast. Throw cinnamon anything on the menu and I can't pass it up (it's the September-born baby in me). Much to my surprise (and delight!) this fluffy French toast comes with dates, banana chips, and pure maple syrup. Aunt Jemima and Mrs. Butterworth can take a hike; until you've tried pure maple syrup dripping from this cinnamon-banana excellence, you don't know what you're missing.

You're not going to want to finish your stay and check out after one of these hearty breakfasts, but all good trips must come to an end. But don't worry, an easy check out process and a final oodling over your pet companion will send you on your way. Where does that leave you now? To plan your next visit to The Commons Hotel as you're packing up your vehicle and driving away. ■

THE COMMONS HOTEL
615 Washington Ave. SE, Minneapolis
612-379-8888
www.commonshotel.com

FREE LEGAL CONSULTATION

Family Law/Divorce • Domestic Partnerships
Child Support • Business & Civil Litigation
Criminal Defense • Wills/Powers of Attorney




RANDALL S. JOHNSON


ATTORNEY AT LAW

651-646-3755 • WWW.RSJLAW.COM

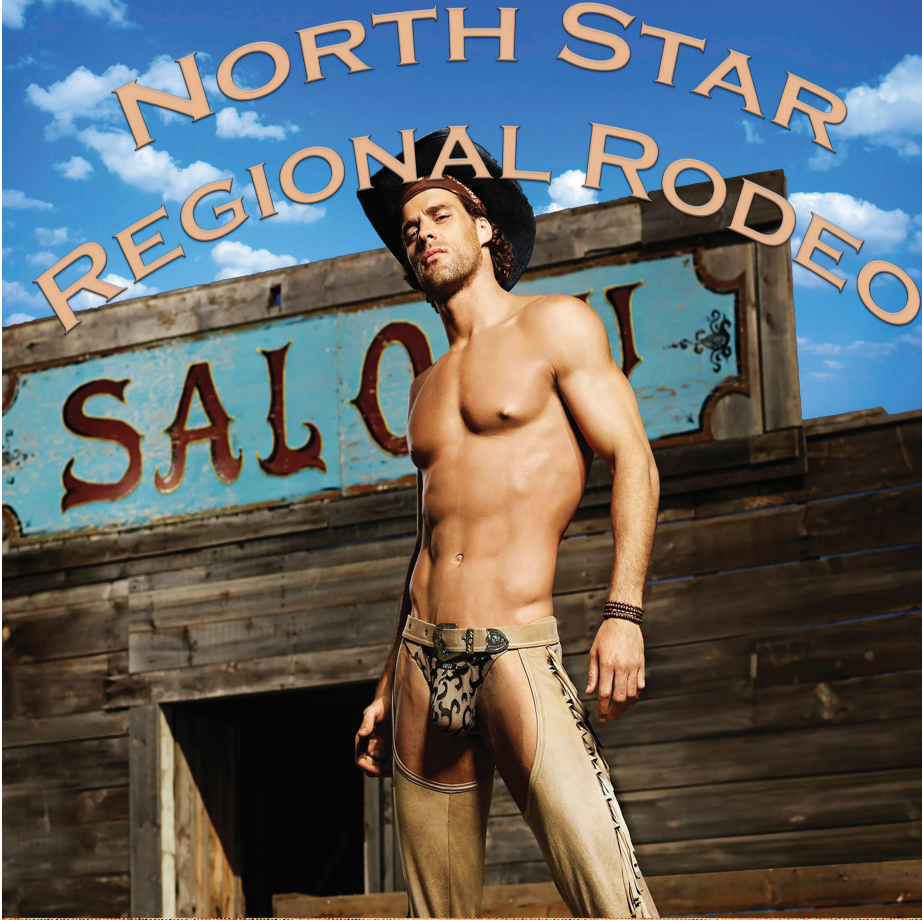
Providing affordable legal services to the LGBT community since 1992
Offices conveniently located at Highway 280 and University Avenue






DEAD BROKE ARENA
HUGO, MN










NORTH STAR REGIONAL RODEO



July 24 - 26, 2015
www.nsgra.org



City Hall and the Cathedral of Bremen, Germany.

Stalking Spargel

Here's a clue about eating in Germany: If it starts with S, it's gonna be good: schnitzel, sauerbraten, sauerkraut, strudel. But the best of the best is celebrated only from late April till June 24, so mark your calendars. It's spargel, the elite white asparagus whose arrival each spring is welcomed like the Second Coming — indeed, a taste as divine as anything heaven could offer. Special menus and festivals mark the season, and that's why I'm in Düsseldorf, unpacking my napkin.

Given spargel's elite status, it's fitting to launch my orgy at the grand Steigenberger Hotel, anchoring Königsalle — “the Ko” — which makes Fifth Avenue look shabby (think Prada, Armani, Dior, Chanel — and, oh yeah, H&M). It's that kind of city: a capitol of fashion as forward as its arts. I work up an appetite with a museum crawl, starting with KIT, occupying a former freeway tunnel. At the NRW Forum, its new director has upped the ante of its always-vanguard exhibits; he's promoting digital art: “Virtual stuff, to attract the young (and shock the rest).”

At the Kunstpalast (“the treasure house of the city”), its retiring director has scored a photo retrospective of his homeboy friend, filmmaker Wim Wenders, as his last hurrah. From K20 I hop a shuttle to its even more forward partner, K21, showcasing unsettling panoramas curated to challenge social views.

So I've earned my spargel. I'm overdosing on the classic version: inch-thick stalks, stacked like lumber and sided simply with boiled potatoes and, ahem, a dish of über-rich and dangerously delicious hollandaise (or go for the Weight Watchers version, melted butter). There's a humming in the room. Oh, I guess it's me.

Day two, it's spargel at zum Schiffcheu, the oldest restaurant in town

(ancient even when Napoleon ate here). Then a food tour through the Old Town, whose riverside promenade leads from a medieval tower to Frank Gehry's starchitectural trio. First stop, Heinemann's for up-scale chocolate. Then Gagliardi's sugar-roasted almonds; spices at Gewurzhaus; Senfladen for fragrant mustards; the minuscule bar selling killipitsch, the local liqueur, through a street-side cubby (just knock). We peek into breweries galore, capped by Uerige with its Art Deco murals and copper still. Finally, the open-air Charles Market: steaming brats and lentil soup amid the lunch-break crowd.

I'm off to Hannover for a single evening, but we make the most of it, in the trendy, boho boys' 'hood called Lindenblatt, dining on local fish with (this time) asparagus in aspic, then rhubarb cake über-atmospheric Teestübchen. Next morning, off to tiny Nienburg, where spargel farmers flourish (see endnote), honored in a spargel museum(!) showcasing growing, harvesting, and dining tools (yes, special porcelain plates and silver tongs). A spargel fountain and spargel sculpture, too. In the town's historical museum, I learn of its former stalag, where Russian prisoners of war claimed spargel juice sustained them.

In the Rathskeller below the medieval Town Hall, hemmed by half-timbered 16th century houses topped with storks' nests, I dine on you-know-what; then, in the evening, in a charming riverside café, I sneak a taste of the luscious stalks as I claim the local pike-perch.

The on-time German train system is lovely — until it isn't. I make it to Bremen just before the strike. Yes, *that* Bremen, of storybook Brementown Musicians fame, and there they stand, in bronze, anchoring the main square (toss a coin into a grate and they'll honk, moo, bark,



(From left) Spargel! The famous white asparagus, here served with potatoes and salmon, Steigenberger Hotel. The Bremertown Musicians, of storybook fame, Bremen, Germany. Spargel Growers, Maria and Georg on their Kokelsum farm. Photos by Carla Waldemar

and cluck for you). There's Roland, too, akin to our Lady Liberty — Germany's symbol and nephew to Charlemagne.

The square ("our living room") is where it all happens: the fabled Town Hall of Gothic superlatives, now an UNESCO treasure, with antique sailing ships floating from its ceilings in honor of its trading history. Beside it, St. Peter's Cathedral, the Frauenkirche of 1032 A.D., and the lively outdoor market. I follow the cobbled street called Böttcherstrasse with its Art Moderne bricks housing trendy shops, and end up in the oldest (and most intriguing) neighborhood, Schnoor. In its tiny alleys, too slim for cars, nestle boutiques, galleries, cafes — nearly as stylish as the Art Museum with its precious paintings, Munch to Monet. Time for dinner before my legs fall off. Fortunately, I spy a beer hall with a sign announcing "Spargel!"

Beginner's luck: There's a rival train company that's not striking, so I arrive in Hamburg to catch a plane home. But first, two precious days at The George Hotel, cleverly Modern British in its upscale theme, in the heart of Hamburg's boys' town. I fall off the culinary wagon at the see-and-be-seen Fairmont Four Seasons Hotel, gorging on homespun liver and bacon.

Both sit aside inner-city lakes, which is fitting, for Hamburg is all about water. Its heartbeat is its river's industrial harbor ("our soul"). A harbor tour chugs us aside its floating behemoths, then anchors near the Fish Market, open for retail solely for early birds on Sunday mornings (it closes at 9:00 a.m.) for pre-dawn champagne and fish snacks after a night at, perhaps, the legendary Reeperbahn nearby — once notorious for its 24/7 brothels, but these days a streetscape of nightclubs (factoid: The

Beatles started their career here).

As we lunch in the harbor's St. Pauli neighborhood at contempo Das Seepferdchen — on fish, of course — my host unwraps his city's psyche. "Time is money," as I was oft instructed in this down-to-business city. "Hamburg is liberal, modest, and the southernmost Scandinavian city," he paints its DNA. Today the harbor's brand new icon, the Elbphilharmonie concert hall, is about to open. We dine in its shadow at CARL, a French-style bistro where Chef Michel Rinkert favors local seafood with Mediterranean touches. Okay, then: pike-perch with bacon crisps, peas, and oyster mushrooms, with a side plate (did I beg?) of spargel.

"Hamburg is a music city," they tell me, but it's got its share of visual art, too: The House of Photography, and aside it a hall displaying modern takes on Picasso's works with canvases by living greats, from Warhol to Oldenburg (many reinterpret "Guernica" with a Vietnam theme). Meanwhile, the Kunsthall boasts the bold names of Art 101: Cranach to Renoir, Rubens to Hockney. And, more modern than them all is HafenCity, Europe's largest urban redevelopment project, balancing high-rises (live, work, play) on acres of reclaimed land.

Time for the world to tune into Hamburg's new image. It's bidding for the 2024 Olympics. And should spargel-eating be declared a competitive sport, look for this gal to take home the gold. For your own adventure, visit www.germany.travel. ■

GAY INFO: visit www.dusseldorf.gaycities and www.hamburg.gaycities for clubs, events, etc.

THE SPARGEL STORY

Spargel mania started in 1895, when a soldier brought the veggie home (it had grown in Egypt for 3,000 years). But, as often happens with exotic items, white spargel was the result of a happy accident. It's white because it never sees the sun. It bests green, insists Herr Backer, who grows 350 tons a year: "milder taste, more tender texture, and....tradition!" He's a member of the Spargelstrasse of North Rhine Westphalia growers, who produce 17,000 tons a year, sold at roadside stands, market squares, and restaurants.

A big deal? It's like corn to Minnesotans: "a sign that summer's here," explains Maria

Schultz-Kokelsum, who, with husband Georg, run the Kokelsum farm, where we lunch on spargel, potatoes, hollandaise and slim slices of ham. Newspaper reporters start calling her in April: "When? When?" like the anticipated birth of a royal heir.

It's planted in foot-high tunnels of dirt and harvested by hand at dawn with what looks like a dandelion digger, demonstrates Herr Borman, "the Pope of spargel." Then it's power-washed in near-freezing water. Next, a peeling machine (saving home cooks the labor), and a conveyor belt for sorting by size (16-22 mm preferred) and color

(French connoisseurs prefer a hint of blue in the tip; the Germans, nein) and sold as a luxury treat for up to \$13 a pound until the short growing season ends.

"See that man?" asks Maria. "He comes in every day for spargel soup and strawberry cake: spring on the tongue." How to cook it? "Swimming in water" with a pinch of sugar, salt, and lemon. Then, "Eat! Eat! Eat!" proclaims Georg. "It's 90 percent water, so it's good for you." Adds Borman, "It makes you beautiful!" Herr Backer provides a test for freshness: rub two stalks together, and they squeak. Another: look for beads of water where it's

been cut.

Among the farms clustered around Ibbenbüren, in Saxony, we visit the annual Spargelfest of Lobke Growers. Hundreds of devotees throng to tour the operation, treat kids to pony rides, fill shopping baskets, and applaud the oompah band as the Spargel Queen smiles. The buffet tables herald spargel in its many manifestations: buttery soup, atop pizza, rolled into crêpes, the star of salads, tossed with scrambled eggs, atop focaccia, within caseroles, snipped into risotto and, of course, stark naked, as god intended.



Kinky Boots. Photo by Matthew Murphy

DON'T DRINK THE WATER

Through July 26

Theatre in the Round Players, 245 Cedar Ave., Mpls.

612-333-3010

www.theatreintheround.org

There was a standing joke 30 years ago about people preferring Woody Allen's early, funny movies rather than his later, more serious ones. However, one of Woody's early works was a hilarious stage play that has gained classic status: the Cold War spoof, *Don't Drink the Water*.

At TRP, director Benjamin Kutschied observes, "The Cold War is a thing of the past, but the world of the play will feel very familiar to a modern audience. The U.S. still has mysterious enemies on the other side of the globe that strike fear into the hearts of many Americans. I could see a very similar play being written in the present day, but it would probably take place somewhere in the Middle East."

That said, given Vladimir Putin's entrenched leadership, one wonders if Reagan-Bush Sr. really did end the Cold War as we are led to believe. Maybe Woody's comedy is more current than we think.

KINKY BOOTS

July 28 - Aug. 2

Orpheum Theatre, 910 Hennepin Ave., Mpls.

800-982-2787

www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org

Harvey Fierstein (*Torch Song Trilogy*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *the Musical*, *Casa Valentina*) is arguably the greatest living gay playwright of queer concepts. Pop legend Cyndi Lauper is the first and only solo woman who has won a Tony for Best Score. These two giants collaborated on *Kinky Boots*. The stage adaptation of the film that won six 2013 Tony Awards, including Best Musical, is about a struggling shoe company in a changing economy influenced by a drag queen named Lola, played by Kyle Taylor Parker in the national tour.

The musical has much to say about accepting one's self and accepting others. Charlie (Steven Booth) is the young owner who inherited the company from his father. He resents this and uses this as an excuse to not move forward. Burly factory worker, Don (Joe Coats), is challenged by Lola to accept someone else. Fierstein has related, "And in accepting

someone else, you can find the steps to accept yourself."

LEONARDO DA VINCI'S "CODEX LEICESTER" AND MARK MOTHERS-BAUGH: MYOPIA

Through Aug. 30

Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 2400 Third Ave. S., Mpls.

612-870-3000

www.artsmia.org

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) is regarded as the greatest figure of the Italian Renaissance. He was never formally educated, which paradoxically gave him an open-mindedness that he used to monumental success. Unlike today's slavery to specialization, it was a time when there was nothing wrong with being a mathematician *and* an artist. The liberated mind behind the *Mona Lisa* can be explored in manuscripts called the "Codex Leicester" at the MIA. This is a notebook he kept, in which he let his mind rove freely.

HOW LONG
DO WE
LEAVE THE
FM ON?
all day.

100.7 FM + 104.5 FM

RADIO K
770AM 100.7 & 104.5 FM
* — * Real College Radio * — *



LAVENDER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION

ONLY \$100

Announcement includes a photo and up to 50 words. Appears in print, online iPad and iPhone editions for 2 weeks.

For more information call
612-436-4698

LaMettry's®

Collision, Glass and More!

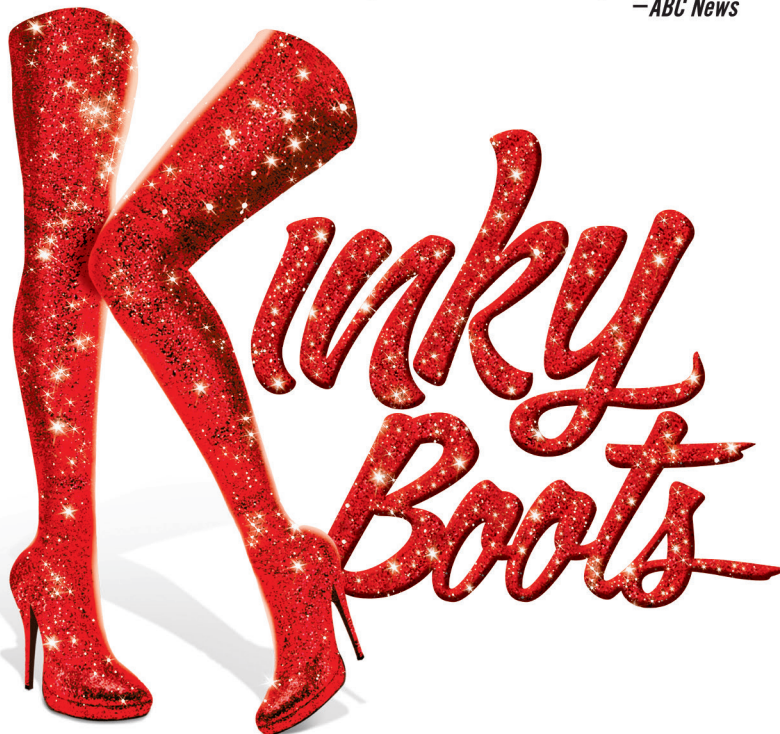
OVER 15 AUTO
MANUFACTURER
CERTIFICATIONS AND
RECOGNITIONS

THE ONLY AUDI AUTHORIZED ALUMINUM COLLISION REPAIRER IN THE 5 STATE AREA

Bloomington | Burnsville | Eden Prairie | Inver Grove Heights
Lakeville | Maplewood | New Brighton | Richfield

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT 1-888-898-0016 OR GET AN ONLINE ESTIMATE AT LAMETTRY.COM

*"Cyndi Lauper delivers
the best Broadway score in years!"*
—ABC News



WINNER!
BEST MUSICAL
— 2013 TONY AWARD —

JULY 28 – AUGUST 2 • ORPHEUM THEATRE

IN PERSON: State Theatre Box Office (no service fees) BY PHONE: 800.982.2787

ONLINE: HennepinTheatreTrust.org GROUPS 10+ SAVE! 612.373.5665

BROADWAY  ACROSS AMERICA
MINNEAPOLIS

PRESENTED BY
HENNEPIN THEATRE TRUST
ORPHEUM • STATE • PANTAGES • NEW CENTURY

 **THRIVENT
FINANCIAL**
Connecting faith & finances for good.™

KINKYBOOTSTHEMUSICAL.COM



Mad Vax: Beyond Measledome. Photo by Dani Werner

If you track the news at all you know there is a wide campaign to promote the denial of science. Though questioning scientific conclusions and where they are and may be leading us can be a virtue, it becomes petulant and potentially destructive to deny evidence. Brave New Workshop, the region's premier comedy theater, takes this on with savage humor in *Mad Vax: Beyond Measledome*. And you don't have to be familiar with *Mad Max* films at all. However, like those films, it delves into horrendous prospects in a post-apocalyptic world. These brilliant skits muse on the line, "No one thought the apocalypse would start in or by...."

Fundamentalist Christians and unscientific views of dinosaurs. The treacherously foolish prevalence of climate change deniers. How simply being a mother makes you an expert on vaccinations. A cleverly stirring comparison and

It is written from right to left, not for any clandestine reason, but because he was left-handed and didn't want his sleeve to be soaked with ink. You can get up close and personal and gay visitors may well wonder if his ability to let his mind roam freely is what brought him in touch with his suspected homosexuality.

After you see the Codex, you can (and should) directly step into *Mark Mothersbaugh: Myopia*, which in our own postmodern time reveals the roaming imagination of a man you may already know of and even be a fan of. Mothersbaugh was a founding member of the band, Devo, which explored the "de-evolution" and downward spiral of forms and structures from U.S. military policy to society's seemingly endless appetite for violence. That said, *Myopia* shows us that such a seemingly nihilistic exploration has actually ended up "evolving" his consciousness toward a brighter overview.

Myopia is an utterly upbeat and vibrant exhibit that will surely make you smile. I actually found myself laughing at times. The Rolly Polly figures reminded me of Hummel figurine mutations. One room is filled with hundreds of clever postcards designed individually by Mothersbaugh. They demonstrate wild and wide versatility. Enlarged rug versions of some of them convey his satirical view of so-called human progress. You'll also see photos made to look like mutated human forms, sensuous fiberglass sculpture reminiscent of Pilobolus dance formations, and some very unusual pipe organs which you can also hear. It's a whimsical experience that nicely contrasts the heavy, albeit splendid, feel of the da Vinci section.

MAD VAX: BEYOND MEASLEDOME
Through Aug. 1
Brave New Workshop, 824 Hennepin Ave., Mpls.
612-333-3010
www.bravenewworkshop.com



Tangerine. Photo courtesy of Magnolia Pictures

contrast between the superstition-driven state of Oklahoma and the more rational Minnesota to the music of Richard Rodgers. These often scathing vignette themes are boldly served by BNW regulars Taj Ruler, Tom Reed, and Bobby Gardner, joined with newbies, Ryan Nelson and Heather Meyer. Directed with aggressive glee by Caleb McEwen.

TANGERINE
now screening
Lagoon Cinema
1320 Lagoon Ave., Mpls.
612-823-3020
www.landmarktheatres.com

If you are looking for the glamorized view of transgender identity that media outlets push with Caitlyn Jenner, then you won't find it in Sean Baker's little gem of a movie, *Tangerine*. You may not even find these gals even the least bit likable. But if you're not offended too easily, you will find them captivating. And if you are someone who knows that economics greatly impact how we approach life, no matter what our identity, you'll appreciate, and maybe even admire them.

Sin-Dee (a crackling Kitana Kiki Rodriguez) has just gotten out of lockup and learns from her best friend, Alexandra (a luminous Mya Taylor), that her boyfriend/pimp has been screwing around. This sets Sin-Dee off into what must be one of the biggest tizzies in film history. The performances are dazzling and dangerous, including a major subplot where an Armenian cabbie is played by Karren Karagulian in a revelatory and vulnerable performance about an ostensibly heterosexual man's desire for transgender people.

Tangerine gets right inside the gritty retaliation-based lives of these poor transgender sex workers on the West Hollywood streets. It pulls no punches, does not default to "positive image" propaganda of the underreported queer underclass, and if you don't get smug when you are watching it, you will see that Baker has ingeniously revealed grim socio-economic realities faced by all the characters, all of whom are marginalized. It also raises what, for some, are disquieting questions about the feasibility of monogamy within those who work in sexually charged businesses. *Tangerine* will make you giggle and make you think. Five Snaps! ■

NEED WINDOWS? relax...window quotes in 5 minutes!

- No Pushy Salesman In Your Home
- Lifetime Glass Breakage Warranty
- No Down Payment
- No Pricing Games, Fake Discounts, or Price Drops



"meditate, relax, be one with the universe - and never ever allow a window salesman into your home."



ZEN WINDOWS
relax...window quotes in 5 minutes.

(763) 350-6647 | ZenWindowsTwinCities.com

VUE | LORINGVUE.COM

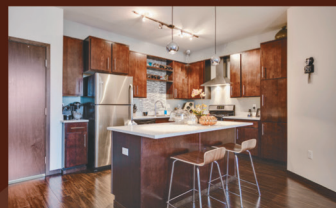
Bring this ad in for
\$500 off your first
months' rent



LIFE. STYLE. DEFINED.

So many luxuries. So convenient. So you.
Be inspired by the Vue! Call or visit today.

- Stainless Steel Appliances
- Gas Stoves (Excluding Alcoves)
- Quartz/Granite Countertops
- Hardwood Floors
- The Vue Terrace
- Halo — Event Space
- Rendevue — Lobby Café
- Concierge Services
- Health Spa
- Underground Heated Parking
- Pet Friendly
- Smoke Free



A New
VUE
on life

LORINGVUE.COM | 415 OAK GROVE • MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55403 | 612.259.3701

ENJOY OUR OUTDOOR SMOKING PATIO

JUKEBOX • VIDEO GAMES • 75¢ POOL TABLES • PINBALL
DARTS • PULL TABS • ATM MACHINE ON PREMISES
OPEN: MON.-FRI. 3 PM-2 AM • SAT.-SUN. 1 PM-2 AM

Singles Pool TOURNAMENT

Sun., July 19 • 4 PM

YOUR BARTENDER
N8



NEVER A COVER CHARGE
Proudly Serving Our Community Since 1952
19 W. 15th St., Minneapolis • (612) 871-5553 • facebook.com/The19Bar

FOC MAP.COM

Fully indexed, Fully Searchable, Friends of Community Map®.
When you can't find it, FOC it!

LAVENDER



VINTAGE DOG DAY

SATURDAY, JULY 18th • 10am - 4pm

Beautiful, older dogs — like vintage treasures — have a lot of love to give. The purpose of Vintage Dog Day is to introduce our community to some of the lovely senior dogs waiting to be adopted from area rescue organizations. A portion of proceeds from the event day's sales will be donated to the partner rescue organization. Come meet a new senior furry friend at every shop along the Minnehaha Mile!

Swing By for some Adopting and Shopping.



**After Party from 4:00 - 6:30pm at
Du Nord Craft Spirits Cocktail Lounge
2610 E 32nd St, Minneapolis, MN 55406**



FROM LAKE ST TO THE FALLS ON MINNEHAHA AVE.

Plum Crabby
3263 Minnehaha Ave.

Turquoise Vintage
3456 Minnehaha Ave.

Paris Antiques
3721 Minnehaha Ave.

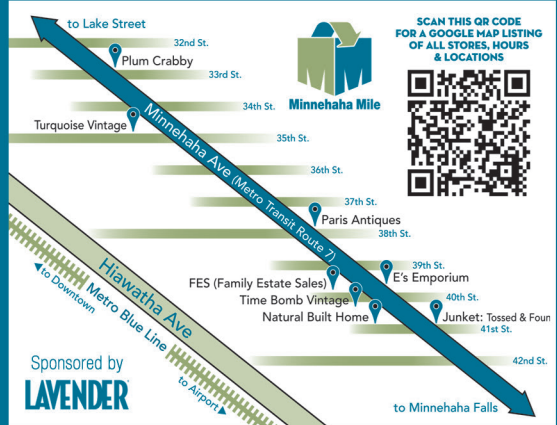
E's Emporium
3911 Minnehaha Ave.

FES (Family Estate Sales)
3940 Minnehaha Ave. (supporting only)

Time Bomb Vintage
4008 Minnehaha Ave.

The Natural Built Home Store
4020 Minnehaha Ave.

Junket: Tossed & Found
4049 Minnehaha Ave.



OUR SCENE

BAR & CLUBS | BAR SHOWCASE | PHOTOS BY GEORGE HOLDGRAFER

> 19 BAR

JUNE 25, 2015



> EAGLEBOLT BAR

JUNE 25, 2015





LUNCH & BRUNCH

LUNCH PUNCH CARD

COME IN FOR LUNCH 5 TIMES
GET YOUR 6TH ON THE HOUSE

BRUNCH

\$4 MIMOSAS & BLOODY MARYS
WITH A MAKE YOUR OWN BLOODY MARY BAR

MOST ENTREES UNDER \$10

WEEKDAYS

LUNCH: 11AM - 2PM
DINNER: 4PM - 10PM

WEEKENDS

BRUNCH: 10AM - 2PM
LUNCH/DINNER: 2PM - 10PM



515 S WASHINGTON AVE.
MINNEAPOLIS, MN

MISTRESS JEAN BARDOT
FETISH NATION (BFN)
PRESENTS

KINKY FRIDAY



GAY 90'S

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY
IN THE ANNEX
DOORS OPEN
9PM

408 S. HENNEPIN AVE • MPLS, MN 55401 | GAY90S.COM • 612-333-7755

International Mr. Leather 2015



(From top left) Foreground, from left: International Mr. Bootblack 2015 Bamm-Bamm; IML first runner-up Kevin Murphy; IML 2015 Patrick Smith; IML second runner-up Brian Donner. Roastees Scout and Pierre enjoy dinner while being roasted. Leather Market vendors in the Congress Plaza Hotel's famous Gold Room. IML contestants holding flags at Friday evening's IML opening ceremonies. Members of the Centaur Motorcycle Club present a \$6,000 check to Rick Storer (right), Executive Director of the Leather Archives & Museum in Chicago. IML contestants onstage during Saturday evening's Pecs & Personality event.

The International Mr. Leather (IML) contest, held every year in Chicago over the Memorial Day weekend, is always an intense weekend. This year, even more than usual, the 37th annual contest was full of emotional and affecting moments. This year's weekend offered supreme heights of pride, exhilaration, and inspiration, including the first-ever marriage proposal made from the IML stage by a contestant. Unfortunately, the weekend ended on a note of sadness.

Thursday: Roasting the 2014 Titleholders

The weekend's unofficial opening was a Thursday evening roast of last year's titleholders International Mr. Leather 2014 Ramien Pierre and International Mr. Bootblack 2014 Scout. The roast took place in the Leather Archives & Museum's Etienne Auditorium. In an IML first, Pierre and Scout actually ate dinner onstage while having stories told on them by friends who had been an important part of their title year. It's not often one sees so much love and so much snark occupying the same stage.

Hotel and Leather Market

This year's host hotel, the Congress Plaza, has been the setting for IML many times over the

years, although not since 2000. The Leather Market, occupying the ornate ballrooms and plainer meeting rooms on the second and third floors of the hotel, was a great place to shop, people-watch, and, for me, to reminisce about past IML contests and Leather Markets. (Some vendors, including our own Twin Cities Leather & Latte, were lucky enough to have their own rooms this year instead of just a booth in a ballroom.)

According to the city of Chicago, IML annually draws 17,000 visitors to Chicago and funnels \$15 million into the local economy.

Friday: IML Opening Ceremonies

The official start of this year's IML weekend was Friday evening's IML opening ceremonies held at Chicago's Park West Theater. All 52 of this year's IML contestants, from 23 states and eight other countries (including, for the first time, a contestant from Chile), were first introduced while carrying or walking beside the flag of their state or country. Also introduced were the six bootblacks competing in this year's International Mr. Bootblack contest.

Saturday Morning: LA&M President's Reception

Every year IML founder Chuck Renslow,

who is also president of the Leather Archives & Museum, hosts a President's Reception for supporters of the Archives. At this year's reception, members of Centaur Motorcycle Club of Washington, D.C. presented a check for \$6,000 to the Leather Archives & Museum in support of the Archives and in recognition of the importance of keeping leather history and culture safe and accessible.

Saturday Evening: Pecs & Personality

The IML crowd returned to the Park West Theater for Saturday evening's physique pre-judging event, also known as "Pecs & Personality." All 52 contestants took the stage, dressed in as little as possible — that was the "pecs" part. Then, to show their "personality", each contestant was asked a question based on information they had provided on their entry forms and then quickly tried to give an answer that was funny or sexy, or preferably both.

Steven Patton, Mr. Twin Cities Leather 2015, had the misfortune to be asked what is perhaps the strangest and most surreal question ever asked in the history of Pecs & Personality. His question had to do with (I am paraphrasing here) being sexually assaulted by a baby bison while volunteering at a wildlife



HAPPY PRIDE

COUNTRY VILLAGE CENTER
11309 HIGHWAY SEVEN
MINNETONKA, MINNESOTA
www.frameworthymin.com

9 5 2 9 3 8 0 8 5 6



BOULEVARD
CHIROPRACTIC
CLINIC, P.A.

THE ONLY THING WE CARE ABOUT
BEING **STRAIGHT** IS YOUR **SPINE**

7200 MINNETONKA BOULEVARD ST. LOUIS PARK, MN 55426
(952) 925-4847 | BLVDCHIRO.COM

Aging isn't easy.
Caregiving doesn't need
to be hard.

If a loved one is getting older and needs care, Right at Home offers services for almost any situation. Our in-home care lets loved ones enjoy life in the comfort of a familiar environment. And it lets you concentrate on caring instead of caregiving. Give us a call and let us develop a Custom Care Plan for your loved one today.



952.954.6122
www.RAH-tc.net



QUORUM
2012 Business of the Year

2012 & 2013 STAR TRIBUNE'S
Top 100 Workplaces
#1 Mid-sized Business



Bob

Paul

The
COMMONS
HOTEL

FOREVER STARTS HERE

Life's biggest moments deserve a special place. Located in the heart of the University of Minnesota and on the Green Line, The Commons Hotel professional catering staff will tailor the taste of your wedding day exactly as you have envisioned. Call us to set up a tour and discover the perfect place to say "I Do".

commonshotel.com | 800.822.6757

Noble House
noblehousehotels.com

AND THOSE
WHO WERE SEEN
DANCING
WERE THOUGHT TO BE INSANE
BY THOSE WHO COULD NOT
~~HEAR THE MUSIC~~

see the jewelry
-Friedrich Nietzsche

Nate



There is nothing we can't customize.

t lee custom **designer jewelry**

www.tleegold.com



(From top left) Some of the many Minnesotans who traveled to Chicago for IML. Hermann Groenewald, Mr. South Africa Leather 2015. Pup Tugger, Mr. Phoenix Leather 2015. Holding a ring, Kevin Murphy, Mr. Leather Ireland 2015, makes his marriage proposal from the IML stage. Kevin Murphy, Mr. Leather Ireland 2015 (right), and his fiancé Robert. Patrick Smith and Brian Donner pose with their mothers. The late Greg Slaven competing in the 2014 IML contest.

nursery; the assault was caught on the security cameras; how would he explain this? The question appeared to perplex Patton as well as many in the audience. Finally, Patton responded: "Hi, my name is Steven, and I literally can't even." The audience applauded.

Sunday Afternoon: Minnesota Group Photo

On Sunday afternoon some of the many Minnesotans who had traveled to Chicago for the IML contest gathered in the lobby of the Congress Plaza Hotel for a Minnesota group photo.

Sunday Evening: IML Contest and Show

The climax of the weekend, the IML Contest and Show, took place Sunday evening at the Harris Theater in Chicago's Millennium Park. After all 52 contestants were introduced, three former IML titleholders announced the top 20 finalists (one of whom was Mr. Minneapolis Eagle 2015, Ren Rushold).

Each finalist then was judged on physique and leather image and presented a 90-second speech. The speeches often were emotionally intense as the contestants spoke from their hearts about topics including same-sex marriage, GLBT oppression in countries such as Russia and Gambia, male rape, HIV stigma, bullying, and suicide. Earlier, on Friday and Saturday, the judges had conducted private one-on-one interviews with each contestant;

Lenny Broberg, IML 1992 and the weekend's emcee, commented that "based on the speeches I can only imagine the interviews."

Here are a few other memorable moments from this year's contest:

- The mothers of three contestants, and the sister of one contestant, were in the IML contest audience.

- Hermann Groenewald, Mr. South Africa Leather 2015, started his speech by saying, "I bet most of you didn't think you would see a man of my age cross the stage tonight. I probably bought my first leather before most of you were born." White-haired with a handlebar mustache, by the time he had finished his speech he had won the hearts of much of the audience.

- Pup Tugger, Mr. Phoenix Leather 2015, caused controversy, but also admiration, throughout the weekend by appearing onstage in a corset, a cape, a fur stole and high boots with stiletto heels (and he knew how to walk in them, too). In his speech he said, "I want every faggot, I want every ladyboy, I want every poodledog, to know that they can be themselves. People are going to look. Give them something to look at."

- On May 22, two days before the IML contest, the country of Ireland had held a referendum approving same-sex marriage. In a history-making IML moment, during his speech Kevin Murphy, Mr. Leather Ireland 2015, knelt on one knee, held up an engagement ring and

said: "Tonight I can stand proud as an Irish leatherman and say these seven words: Robert, my love, will you marry me?"

When the speeches and physique judging were over, it was time to announce the evening's new titleholders. First announced was the new International Mr. Bootblack 2015: Bamm-Bamm, from Phoenix, Arizona. IML second runner-up honors went to Brian Donner, Mr. Tri-State Leather 2014 from Cincinnati, Ohio. IML first-runner-up honors went to Kevin Murphy, Mr. Leather Ireland 2015. And the new International Mr. Leather is Patrick Smith, Mr. Los Angeles Leather 2015. (Smith's and Donner's mothers were in the audience to see them take their place on the winners' podium; after the contest they were invited to the stage to be photographed with their sons.)

Monday: Exhilaration Tempered with Mourning

Sadly, the normally celebratory atmosphere of the Monday after an IML contest was overshadowed this year by news about one of last year's IML contestants: Greg Slaven of Indianapolis, Ind., who held the titles of Mr. 501 Eagle 2014 and Mr. Olympus Leather 2012, had taken his own life at his home Sunday night. The news of Slaven's passing left many weekend attendees shocked and saddened, and put an even stronger focus on the need for suicide awareness and prevention within the GLBT and leather communities. ■

YOUR BRAND + **OUTLOUD PROMOTIONS** = INCREDIBLE BRANDED MERCHANDISE

GIVING YOUR BRAND A VOICE

OutLoud Promotions is a full service branded merchandise agency creating high impact promotional products designed to elevate your brands and engage your target audience.

• LGBTQ & GREEN CERTIFIED COMPANY

OUTLOUDPROMOS.COM
shout@outloudpromos.com
952-456-8372



*MENTION LAVENDER AND GET 20% OFF YOUR FIRST ORDER



FIRST EQUITY MORTGAGE

NMLS #299829

Golden Valley

763-251-8001

8401 Wayzata Blvd

Ste 340

Golden Valley 55426

Bloomington

763-251-8002

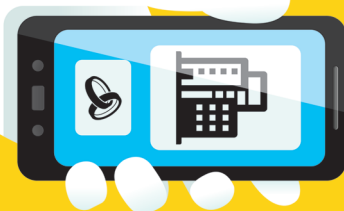
2626 E 82nd St

Ste 260

Bloomington 55425



Femort.com



2015

GLBT Yellow Pages &
Wedding Resource Guide

LavenderYellowPages.com

Your Complete Home Team



Kay T. Johnson
612.802.8261

Amy Ruzick
651.492.1044

Keith Taylor
952.829.1584



NoPlaceLikeHome.info

Suffer Through BigGayNews*

***#1 Gay News Source on Twitter**

"Your newsreader mispronounces words, names, cities, etc."

"Some find this endearing, but I find it annoying."

"Terrible! Get him some elocution lessons!"

"The poorly pronounced narration makes it impossible to listen to."

"All you hear is the very poor quality of the English language newsreader."

Kudos to Linda Raines for compiling the top 5 daily stories!

Listen to Pierre Tardif's "insufferable" delivery of BigGayNews on iTunes' Podcasts.

Subscribe on iTunes!

Client Focused. Results Driven.

* **Melissa Houghtaling

* Rebecca Heltzer

HELTZER & HOUGHTALING, P.A.

Real Estate, Divorce, Child Custody/Child Support, Landlord/Tenant, Litigation and Probate.

*Selected to the Super Lawyers List
**Rule 114 Civil and Family Law Mediator

413 Wacouta St., Suite 430, St. Paul • (651) 330-8508
WWW.HELTZERHOUGHTALING.COM

THE REMODELER YOU CAN TRUST

Courteous, experienced professionals from start to finish.
Detailed & accurate estimates for your project budget.
Detailed project plans, specifications, & schedules.
Daily & weekly communication of schedules & budget during your project.
Quality workmanship that adds lasting beauty and value to your home.



hl House Lift
REMODELER

Additions & Dormers / Kitchens & Bathrooms / Custom Cabinetry
Whole House Renovation / Porches & Sun-Rooms / Finished Basements

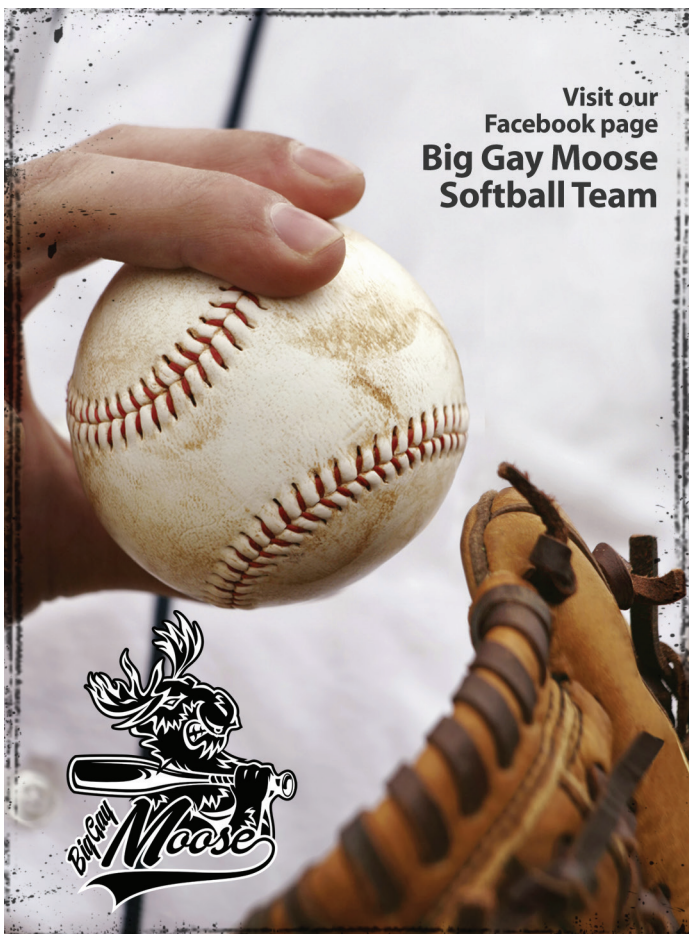
www.houseliftinc.com

4330 Nicollet Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55409
612.821.1100 / 651.690.3442

MN LIC #BC378021



Visit our
Facebook page
**Big Gay Moose
Softball Team**

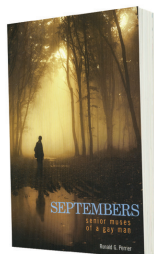


OUR AFFAIRS

BOOKS | BY E.B. BOATNER

Septembers: Senior Muses of a Gay Man

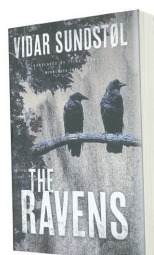
Ronald G. Perrier
Archie Publications
\$26.95



Reading *Septembers* is much like having an evening's conversation together with author Ron Perrier. As in any conversation, there are main topics launched and frequent digressions within them, written here in a pleasing mix that serves to construct a coherent whole. There is also a separate, long chapter, "Equine Meanderings: The History of Horses", on this special topic. Born in 1940, Perrier has lived through much of the history of the emergence of gays into American mainstream life. While he achieved his childhood dream to teach, he nevertheless endured the daily fear of potential social and workplace opprobrium awaiting gay individuals. He writes candidly and specifically of friends, lovers, and, the place of heaven he finally achieved. I recommend his first memoir, *Persistence of Vision*.

The Ravens: Minnesota Trilogy 3

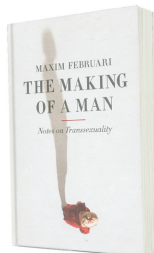
Vidar Sundstøl – tr. Tiina Nunnally
University of Minnesota Press
\$24.95



In *The Land of Dreams*, Forest Ranger Lance Hansen discovered the savaged corpse of a tourist. Local Ojibwe Lenny Diver was arrested, but Hansen harbored suspicions that the killer was his brother, Andy, suspicions that plagued him through volume two, *Only the Dead*, again in the present. In *Dead*, they went hunting together; an accidental shot led Andy to believe Lance tried to kill him. Lance fled and disappeared. Now returned from a faked trip, Lance investigates again, only to discover that they, too, possess Ojibwe blood: Andy could be the killer. A century-old murder, an old man's visions, and Lance's returned dream powers pull him toward the solution. Sundstøl weaves shamanic journeying between worlds to bring Lance and the trilogy to a stunning conclusion.

The Making of a Man: Notes on Transsexuality

Maxim Februari – tr. Andy Brown
Reaktion Books Ltd. / University of Chicago Press
\$22.50

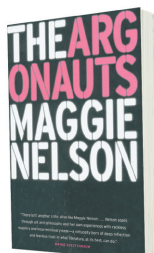


Dutch writer Maxim Februari, announced in 2012 that he would henceforth be living as a man, and received reactions so widely varied that it was clear to him that the subject of transsexuality is little- or ill-understood by people not experiencing it themselves. Hence this small, but immensely informative, volume.

"What I have written here is all that I know," he begins, and continues in a deft, concise, voice that fulfills his intention of presenting notes that "can help in personal or social conversations, so that talking about transsexuality will not remain stuck in shame and shamelessness." Ten chapters, touching on "Body", "Etiquette", "Testosterone", "Woman", can be read with pleasure by trans- and non-trans alike to begin to get a handle on this emerging world.

The Argonauts

Maggie Nelson
Graywolf Press 134
\$23



Critic Maggie Nelson centers this memoir around her relationship with the artist, Harry Dodge, and her own pregnancy. Nelson thrusts out tentacles into the works of well-known theorists on sexuality, exploring the ties that bind, her own need for "radical forms of freedom," exploring how these values mesh with the insistence of the corporeal, maternal body. How to weave a livable existence from the threads? As Nelson started pregnancy, Dodge was starting testosterone injections. "The summer of our changing bodies" found Nelson four months pregnant with Dodge in Fort Lauderdale for the latter's mastectomy. The title derives from Roland Barthes' description of the ship of the Argonauts, which, over the course of their voyage was replaced, piece by piece, arriving home entirely new, yet unchanged. ■

"Septembers: Senior Muses of a Gay Man"

A conversation with Dr. Ronald G. Perrier

Ronald G. Perrier is professor emeritus of theater and film studies at St. Cloud State University where he taught for 27 of his 40-plus years as an educator. He has directed some 75 theater productions and taught classes in theater and film history, dramatic literature, and criticism. He holds MA and PhD degrees from the University of Minnesota. Perrier retired in 2002, devoting his time to writing. His first volume of memoir, *Persistence of Vision: The Life Journey of a Gay Man*, was published in 2008. Perrier recently spoke with *Lavender* about his life and new work.

In addition to the recent major change of same-sex marriage ability, what do you feel have been the greatest, or most valuable, gains in growing gay acceptance?

Ronald G. Perrier: One of the many advantages of being old is having seen the ebb and flow of public opinion and attitudes. When I was first struggling to come out, at age 20 in 1960, being gay was frightening. Of course I knew I was different by about the age of eight or nine, but I didn't have a word for it. In 1960, gay folks were in a secret society, and most others held the notion that gay people were perverted, sick, and a danger to young people. Gay teachers were particularly suspect, because it was felt that they would "recruit" young people to the gay lifestyle. I like what Harvey Milk said about that: "Most of my teachers were heterosexual, and that didn't persuade me to be straight." The rare gay-themed films showed gay characters as troubled, perverted outcasts in a "normal" society. The gay characters were usually unhappy, and they usually died or committed suicide by the end of the film.

And then the AIDS crisis came, and the anti-homosexual public had new ammunition that we were not only perverted, but God had shown his displeasure with us by killing us off.

We are in a more honest and open place today. The myths & horrors of my earlier years in the 1960s and 70s have given way to notions of gay pride, gay marriages, and gay parenting. In the early years of the Gay Pride parade in Minneapolis, there were very few floats or marching bands; it was very short compared with today's Pride parades. Many gay people were afraid to watch the parade for fear that relatives would see them in the televised pictures on the news that night, so they hid at home. What a contrast today! The Minneapolis Pride parade is one of the largest in the nation. Politicians willingly join the parade, parents and straight siblings of gays march alongside their gay siblings.

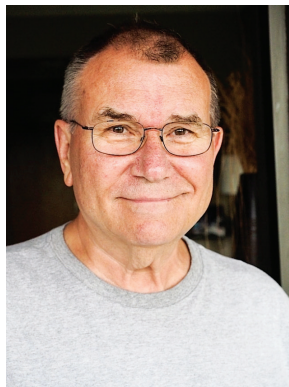
Today we have gay studies curricula in our colleges. In the early 1990s, while I was teaching theater and film courses at St. Cloud State University, I offered a liberal arts course called "The Gay and Lesbian in Film." In this conservative central Minnesota university, 75 students enrolled — straight, gay, young, old, and curious. The discussions were lively. Lots of learning was going on!

What is your take on the growing transgender presence in the country? Do you feel they are being adequately supported by the GLBs in the Rainbow?

RGP: The transgender presence in society today is less in the shadows than ever before, particularly with all the publicity surrounding [Caitlyn] Jenner. I'm old enough to remember the scandal when a man went to Europe for transgender surgery and emerged as a woman named Christine Jorgensen. Cruel school kids of my generation would taunt feminine schoolboys with "Hi, Christine!" followed by derisive laughter. True ignorance in action. More recently [there was] Chaz Bono, the child of song duo Sonny and Cher, but it is Jenner's change that has made the world stand up and wonder and listen and think.

What were your favorite courses, and why? What did you hope to draw from your students?

RGP: I had a course titled "Introduction to Theatre and Film" that was a comparison/contrast study of the two presentational arts. During my 27 years



Dr. Ronald G. Perrier.

at St. Cloud State, this course grew more and more popular. I made each lecture not a lecture, but a performance. My "audience" numbered 425 students with lectures on two days and a feature film each week. Large classes like this can be deadly dull, but my own theater training came to my rescue, and my lectures were performances with all the histrionics involved. In *Septembers* I give several detailed descriptions of some of these presentations. One in particular is a description of a particularly bloody final scene of the Roman Seneca's *Oedipus the King* that elicited groans and screams from my audience.

Do you feel your Catholic Church upbringing hindered your life as a gay man as much as the prevailing anti-gay attitudes of the time? Did the silence and secrecy imposed by both intensify your experience?

RGP: Being raised Catholic was a strong impediment to a healthy development in my childhood and adolescence.

The love that Jesus Christ epitomized was preached at us in Masses and confessionals not as love, but as guilt trips and sins and warnings. And if you told a priest in confessional you were gay, you had reached the depths of human worth in the eyes of the church. Ironically, our punishment often came from a priest who might very well have been gay, closeted, or otherwise.

I mention in the book a handsome young man I'd met at the Gay 90s bar in Minneapolis. We really fell in love, and we dated for some time. I wondered why he never invited me to his home in western Wisconsin, and that's when he told me he was a priest. He was intelligent and beautiful in mind and body, and he loved being a priest despite the opposing forces that were pulling him apart. This relationship, if you could even call it that, did not last too long.

Your home life seemed to be a balance, at least in your youth, for the other uncertainties in your life. You speak glowingly of your folks, the sights and sounds of rural Minnesota; night skies, barnyard, and so on. Would you talk about that a bit?

RGP: As to my home life on the farm, I make mention early in the book that we were poor but we really didn't know it. It was a labor-intensive life, and we worked seven-day weeks without holidays. The first four of us kids were born two years apart. I was second in line after my older sister. Two more daughters were born several years later and several years apart. These last two didn't experience farm life, because when they were very young, Dad sold the farm and moved to the city of Stillwater.

The bouquet of aromas on a farm were mostly sweet — fresh-mowed hay, corn silage stored in a high cylindrical silo, the beauty of the pastures and fields, growth, maturation, and harvest repeated over and over again in nature's ritual.

It is in this setting that I developed my philosophical bearings and values. Close friends on farms are rare except in the one-room country school that I attended for all eight grades with the same devoted teacher. Being alone on the farm gave me ample opportunities to dream and think and fantasize about the mysteries of life.

You have a marvelous memory and you seem to have much written information at hand from which to draw. Have you always kept files of letters and so on?

RGP: I have been given the gift of a good memory. I am amazed that I can recall so many sights, sounds, aromas, conversations of my boyhood 60-plus years ago — as well as in the intervening years. I also am a pack rat. I save lots of documents and letters that most people would toss out. (That is what is so sad to me now that we use email and then delete it: nothing is kept to peruse later.) I have letters to and from a mentor of mine, a gay professor at UW-River Falls where I taught for two years. Our friendship began before that and continued after until his death. Our letters span about 25 years. When I

CONTINUED ON PAGE 46 ➔

CURIOUS?

MISSISSIPPI RIVER ADVENTURES

ABOVE THE FALLS SPORTS
JOIN US ON THE RIVER
GROUP KAYAKING TOURS
MAY—OCTOBER
612.825.8983
www.abovethefallsports.com

ALERUS

WE WANT YOU TO FEEL
RIGHT AT HOME
WITH YOUR MORTGAGE.

PAT GLEASON
MORTGAGE BANKER NMLS 459439
952.847.9834
PAT.GLEASON@ALERUS.COM

BOB AUSTIN
MORTGAGE BANKER NMLS 400546
952.417.8456
BOB.AUSTIN@ALERUS.COM

APPLY ONLINE:
GLEASONAUSTINGROUP.COM

Ron Strychar
Vice President
HORIZON AGENCY, INC.
6500 City West Parkway, Suite 100
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
952-914-7185
ron@horizonagency.com
Shared Wisdom... Powerful Results
Business & Personal Insurance Solutions

Are You Serious About Protecting Your Business Against Cybercrime?

FREE CYBER-SECURITY EXECUTIVE BRIEFING

"5 Critical IT Security Protections EVERY Business Must Have In Place NOW To Avoid Cyber Attacks, Data Breach Lawsuits, Bank Fraud and Compliance Penalties"

"Anti-virus and firewalls are no longer enough to stop professional criminals from destroying your business"

Nathan Jewett
Founder & CEO

Register Online at
softuitive.com/pride
or call 651-760-8372 ext. 700

Sensibly Progressive IT Solutions

BOOKS

wrote to Wayne, I always kept a carbon copy of my letters for my files. So this carton of correspondence has the "to" and the "from" all in chronological order. This is really a GLBT history in the period of the 1970s and '80s since he and I wrote often of many personal issues. I catalogued these letters with that history in mind. After my death, these letters (as well as everything else I have of interest) will be housed in the "Ronald G. Perrier Collection" in the Jean-Nickolaus Tretter Collection at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

Did your gayness enable you to more readily perceive the existing sexism for both girls and boys back in the early '60s?

RGP: My first year of teaching in a small, provincial town in Wisconsin was in 1962–63. Being the only single person in a faculty of 17, and filled with the new ideas of educational philosophy, I was quite disappointed to find this school locked in a distant past as far as educational philosophy was concerned.

I also saw some of the students who seemed to be gay or lesbian, but to broach the subject with those students would have been unthinkable. This was 1962, after all! But I did develop some strong and lasting friendships with some of the students. One must remember that *The Catcher in the Rye* was new and shocking and controversial. I taught it to my honors seniors anyway. In my book I point out the ridiculous and sexist attitudes at that time. Boys took shop classes, girls took home economics classes. What about girls who wanted to learn drafting and design? What about boys who wanted to study culinary arts?

In your early twenties, well before AIDS, what kind of thoughts/hopes/expectations did you have for a gay man in his mid-'70s? Pride Parades, legalized gay marriage, and *Kinky Boots* at the Orpheum couldn't have been even a gleam in your eye.

RGP: I'm not sure I thought too much about the future of myself as a gay man at that time. I was so busy sorting out what the present held for me as I worked my way through the intensity of first loves, determining how I fit in the whole scheme of things. If I had any means to see what the future of the gay movement, with all its ramifications and dimensions, would become as I progressed toward my 70s, I would have been shocked and amazed. And I probably would have denied that such progressive things for my gay friends and me could ever be anything outside the realm of fantasy. Marriage between same-sex couples was such a futuristic fantasy! The idea of same-sex couples having a family with children was also a remote and impossible dream.

When I was young and just coming out, we gay people existed in a secretive, closeted world. We spoke in code: "She or he was a friend of Dorothy's" meant she/he was gay. There was a fascination with Judy Garland and her character of Dorothy Gale in *The*

Wizard of Oz. We sang those romantic, hopeful, and plaintive lyrics to Judy's song: "If happy little blue birds fly beyond the rainbow, why, oh, why can't I?" It was no coincidence that Judy Garland's suicide and the New York Stonewall Bar riots occurred at the same time. Gay people weren't going to "take it" any more from abusive cops raiding gay bars, and they fought back against the police who had taunted them and arrested them for being in a "disorderly" place.

To paraphrase Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard, life must, by necessity, be lived forward; but life can only be understood backward. This concept seems simplistic and obvious, but we don't usually understand our lives as we are living them. Only in retrospect do we gain insights about where we have been and what it meant in our development, and have a notion of where we are going.

You're obviously not one to sit idle.

Do you have a next project in mind?

RGP: I've already started it. I'm doing preliminary research on the Vietnam Conflict, and I'm seeing all those (mostly con) films of that era to refresh my knowledge. I hated that war so much. I was not up for the draft because teachers were exempt, but if I had been drafted I would have gone quickly up to my dad's country of origin, Canada.

When I'm ready to get started, I will start getting word out that I am looking for vets to interview. VFW places, vet hospitals, family members, relatives. I'm fairly good at interviewing (*Growing Up Male in America, A Sense of Honor: Remembrances of WWII Veterans*), so I should have fairly good luck at finding these folks to interview. I suppose many just don't want to think about that awful period, and certainly may not want to be interviewed about it. I found some WWII vets like that.

These vets are about my age, and if we are not careful in getting their stories, they will all be gone within the next two decades.

What especially would you want to say to a group of young *Lavender* readers?

RGP: I would say live your life responsibly, and take pride in what a different life you are living today compared with your older gay friends. The struggles and pain and sorrow and fear as well as the joys of my generation laid the foundation for the freedoms you have today. For example, on the issue of gay marriage: my generation could barely imagine such a phenomenon when we were young, and now, in most states, it is perfectly legal and openly celebrated. Enjoy, and remember that life must be lived forward, but it can only be understood backward. Don't forget us. It will be very interesting to see what the current Supreme Court Justices decide on this issue. ■

Septembers: Senior Muses of a Gay Man will be launched at the Saloon Fire Bar, 830 Hennepin Ave., July 17, where Perrier will be signing books 6:00-10:00 p.m.





612-208-8461

FIND HER at 2823 Central Ave NE




Kline Cares
About People...

About our *Guests*...
About our *Kline Family*...
About our *Community*...
About our *Environment*.



SOME LONG TERM RELATIONSHIPS JUST LAST.

ENHANCING YOUR CAR BUYING EXPERIENCE.

For special pricing, contact me directly.

Jessica Katz
General Manager

OUR ADDRESS:
3090 Highway 61 North
Maplewood, MN 55109
651-379-4300

SALES HOURS:
Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 9:00 pm
Friday - Saturday 8:30 am - 6:00 pm

SERVICE & PARTS HOURS:
Monday - Thursday 7:00 am - 8:00 pm
Friday 7:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm



WWW.KLINENISSAN.COM



Motor City Pride Parade Line-Up Fiat.

More Than Just a Parade: THE INTERSECTION OF THE AUTO INDUSTRY AND THE GLBT COMMUNITY

When an automobile manufacturer says they support the GLBT community, what is the ultimate output of that support?

To answer this question, we must first look in our own backyard. A walk through Loring Park during the Twin Cities Pride festival shows how much the local corporate community has embraced our culture and created a space for its GLBT employees to succeed and thrive openly. Twin Cities Pride would not be what it is if it

were not for the employees and the employee resource groups (ERGs) at Target, Best Buy, Wells Fargo, US Bank, Ameriprise, Delta Air Lines, General Mills, SuperValu...and so forth.

It is not about having a local presence in front of hundreds of thousands of people over a period of a weekend. Rather it is showing what these corporations are doing to be a part of the greater GLBT community all year round. It is not just true here in the Twin Cities and throughout the

Upper Midwest. It is true at almost every Pride celebration held anywhere in the world.

The reasons why our local corporations are involved with Twin Cities Pride are the same reasons that General Motors, Ford, and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) are an integral part of Motor City Pride. Detroit's annual Pride celebration not only welcomes Southeastern Michigan's three most prominent corporations to their celebration — they have been proud

sponsors of this event.

In previous articles in *Lavender* magazine, we reported how Detroit's automotive industry had been supporting the GLBT community both within and outside of their headquarters; however, we have never witnessed it in action. I was provided an opportunity to do exactly that: to see how the automotive industry actually works to support their GLBT employees and support the greater community around them.

It is actually a two-way street. Detroit's "Big Three" serve as corporate citizens as the major corporations do in the Twin Cities. GM, Ford, and FCA have booths at the Motor City Pride Festival in Hart Plaza, located right at the end of Woodward Avenue facing the Detroit River. Each booth offered a display with their latest products, staffed by their respective company's ERGs. Both FCA, through the Fiat brand, and Ford added activities designed to engage with the visitors to the festival. Fiat had a bean-bag toss along with some dancing and a PA system. Outside of the festival stages, you might say that Fiat had the liveliest booth at Hart Plaza.

On Sunday, Ford and FCA had marching units in the parade. In FCA's case, it was driven by the Fiat brand and members of the company's ERG, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA). In this year's parade, Fiat presented a new 2016 500X crossover wrapped with rainbow stripes, serving as their "Grand Marshal" for the parade for FCA. In addition, the 500X, along with other Fiat models was joined by up to 300 couples that were married in the short window between a Federal Court ruling on legalizing marriage equality in Michigan and the stay granted to the state's government.

The latter part reveals a new twist in the industry-community relationship. In the past couple of years, companies had been taking a stand on behalf of their GLBT employees and the community at large. In Indiana, the backlash against the signing of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act sparked statements and some action by companies doing business in that state. Here in Minnesota, General Mills was one of the first corporations to publicly

throw their support against the ballot measure in 2012 that would have banned marriage equality in the state constitution. That measure was defeated and marriage equality became law in Minnesota in 2013.

Why would FCA bring up to 300 married couples in their parade unit at Motor City Pride?

ERGs have been seen as serving within the company as a network for employees representing a certain race, religion, or sexual orientation toward ensuring non-discrimination at the workplace and equity in benefits. They also do work in the community through volunteering or to help fund resources for people within and outside of the workplace. FCA and GALA have done the latter, but in a fashion that is even more collaborative within and outside of the workplace toward making the greater community better.

During Motor City Pride weekend, I visited Affirmations, Southeast Michigan's GLBT community center located in suburban Ferndale. FCA is one of the major supporters of this community center, along with General Motors and Ford. However, there seems to be a sense that FCA was doing more collaborative work with the community center than just supporting the organization and its facility. It has been a partnership that has been active for ten years, through the opening of the new facility in 2005. FCA's involvement is through not only the help of GALA; the company's Group Treasury is a Board member of Affirmations. The community center's Executive Director, Darrious D. Hilmon, said that FCA's partnership is based on "honest support" and the company "stands" with Affirmations.

The core of these efforts by FCA to partner with the GLBT community is centered on its ERG — GALA. The ERG's chair, Gregory Hawkins, works as a process manager at MOPAR. He spent Motor City Pride weekend making sure their booth was activated, setting up the flotilla of Fiats leading this year's parade, and to engage in media activities to tell their story on how they are making an impact on the community within and outside of the workplace.

When he became chair of GALA, Hawkins' intention was not just to ensure that GLBT employees of FCA were getting employment protections and the proper benefits, but to fully engage with the community beyond FCA's facilities. These efforts are not stopping on the streets of Detroit on that Sunday afternoon or at Affirmations. Hawkins said that they are planning a 5K charity run at the Auburn Hills headquarters to benefit homeless GLBT youth in Southeastern Michigan. Though there will be more work GALA will undertake from Auburn Hills, Hawkins maintains that they will still make sure that the company continues to provide benefits for same-sex couples — married or otherwise — and to insure necessary health benefits for transgender employees as part of the effort to ensure employee happiness within the company.

At the lobby of FCA's headquarters in Auburn Hills, Michigan, there is a series of panels called "The Faces of GALA." These panels include photos of FCA employees (including executives and other allies throughout the company) telling their stories. Hawkins said that the panels will be seen at other facilities across the company, including manufacturing sites. The point about having allies as part of GALA was stressed by Hawkins and Georgette Borrego Dulworth, Director of Talent Acquisition and Diversity at FCA US starting that they are a "key benefit" toward activating the efforts of the ERG in accomplishing their goals within the company and out in the community.

What I saw in Detroit was an outcome based on the deepening intersection of the automotive industry and the GLBT community. To state that a company supports our community takes good diversity policy, a strategy driven by many teams within the company, and the intention to do good for the people you serve — within and outside of the workplace to truly put the "rubber on the road." In the backdrop of a re-emerging city, what FCA accomplished at Motor City Pride was beyond the expectations put upon the private sector in Southeastern Michigan. ■



(From left) Members of FCA GALA in front of the "Grand Marshal" 2016 Fiat 500X. The Fiat booth at the Motor City Pride Festival. Affirmations community center in Ferndale, MI.

In Lieu of an Owner's Manual

Caitlyn Jenner's very public gender transition is helping to change perceptions about transgender people. Still, for trans persons who lack television agents or magazine photographers, transitioning genders remains incredibly difficult. For my contribution, here are some lessons learned from my struggle with gender identity.

When it comes to gender, brain always trumps anatomy. First off, since no one is born with an owner's manual, we're often left guessing about whether something is truly core to our existence as human. "Gender correctors" like Caitlyn Jenner and I frequently struggle for decades with the "crazy" thought that our gender may actually be other than the one that's reflected by our bodies. We often wrongly believe that if only we work harder, we'll be able to find happiness with our birth gender. Wrong! Try as one might, the relentless gut tugs caused by the brain-body disconnect will persist until the person who's struggling with his/her gender identity faces the simple reality that the brain always wins out. Unless one accepts this reality, the gut tugs will never cease.

If you let it, fear will imprison you. We're all afraid of something — job security, health issues, or even the idea of New Year's Eve without a date. For me, the biggie was a fear of dying alone. I worked hard to keep that fear from materializing: by age 15, I had fallen in love with my high school sweetheart, Lydia, who promised to be with me until my last breath. Alas, if I was going to accept myself as female, I knew that I'd lose Lydia and understood that I likely would end up on my deathbed without anyone to hold my hand. Eventually, the need to be me outweighed my fear of dying alone. I'm extremely lucky; many other trans persons can't achieve authenticity because of fear.

Never underestimate the power of human touch. Whatever your background or life experience, all of us crave human touch. We get hooked on touch the moment we're born; from there on out, touch is more addictive than the most powerful opiate. Some will do anything to keep human touch: travel thousands of miles, endure horrific abuse, or remain in the wrong gender. Sometimes the fear of losing human touch dictates our course. (See item 2 above.) At least be honest with yourself about it. (See item 6 below.)

Be aware of golden handcuffs. Speaking of things that dictate one's course, watch out for golden handcuffs; if you're not careful, you might wake up one morning wearing a pair. Metaphorically, golden handcuffs represent decisions that lock one into situations from which he/she can't easily escape. Like building a life around your birth gender when actually you really are of another gender. At some point, it becomes so

incredibly painful to change course.

Journal, journal, journal. Remember the need to face fear? One way to beat back fear — and to find authenticity in the process — is to record your honest thoughts on paper. And no, don't substitute your iPad; there's something incredibly granular and quite wonderful about ink on paper and the ability to thumb back through months or years. Doing so could reveal thought patterns which prevent you from accepting your "true" gender. Journaling isn't only cathartic and nurturing; it just might save you thousands more in therapist bills!

Honesty begins with self. I was great at lying to myself — sure, I love all things feminine but that obsession will go away once I get older; no, I'll never hurt my wife or family; and absolutely, that brand new BMW will be enough reward to continue denying that I'm female. While denial is a big part of the human condition, it's not an excuse for consistently lying to one's self. Yes, self-honesty is messy, bumpy, and incredibly difficult, but in the end there's a tremendous payoff: clarity, maybe even enlightenment, about who you really are.

Regret burns far hotter than loss. The most common regret of those facing death is that they lacked the courage or conviction to live a life true to who they were. For some, this meant not fulfilling dreams or lifelong goals; for others, "authenticity" is that lost chance for a midlife correction à la Caitlyn Jenner. Certainly, some life decisions will produce loss — family members, money, social standing, or that BMW you bought to compensate — but trust me, loss pales in comparison to the gut wrench of regret that comes from not being true to one's self.

Authenticity is magical. Words can't fully describe what it means to finally eliminate the disconnect between brain and body; it's a magical gift that only you can give to yourself. Facing reality, mustering courage and self-honesty, and going forward despite the challenges and fear make us better humans. Being able to live as your true self — as the real you, not the person that society says you have to be because of anatomy — is worth it. You are worth it.

There are many other life lessons from transitioning genders; most important, today Caitlyn Jenner and hundreds of thousands (actually, I'm sure it's millions) of other trans persons are visibly teaching the world what it means to be genuine and live authentically.

Thankfully, the world is now finally paying attention. ■

Ellen (Ellie) Krug is a public speaker and the author of Getting to Ellen: A Memoir about Love, Honesty and Gender Change. She welcomes your comments at ellenkrugwriter@gmail.com.



PRIDE INSTITUTE
Creating a Healthy LGBT Community

One Treatment Center Does Not Fit All

Exclusively Serving the LGBT Community

Located in the Minneapolis Metro area of Minnesota, we specialize in:

- Drug & Alcohol Abuse
- Specializing in Crystal Meth and Sexual Compulsivity
- Residential & Intensive Outpatient Programs
- Exclusively providing the LGBT community a comfortable safe alternative to traditional treatment programs for over 28 years.

Brighten your future - contact us today.

www.pride-institute.com | 952.934.7554 / 800.547.7433





MISS TCGSL 2015

Sunday, July 19
Doors: 6pm • Show: 7pm
Gay 90's
408 Hennepin Ave., Mpls

Join the Twin Cities Goodtime Softball League for its most exciting league fundraiser of the year, and cheer on the athletes as they compete for the title of Miss TCGSL and a party bus for 20-30 people.

HOSTED BY THE INCOMPARABLE
LUCY STOOLE



Lots of Drink Specials
Tickets: \$10 per person
www.tcgsl.org

 **LAVENDER** Part of the 11th Annual SUMMER of PRIDE

 **TWIN CITIES GOODTIME SOFTBALL LEAGUE**



PROFESSIONAL EXTERIOR HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Solar Energy • Siding • Decks • Roofs
Windows & Doors • Insulation
Remodeling • Room Additions




Lic. BC271852

Professional contractor services for over 10 years.
Providing the highest quality products, and award winning service. Plus the lowest possible prices with a strong commitment to complete customer satisfaction.


www.exteriorenancements.com





Creating LIFESTYLE



Creating value, beauty, and function in unique Twin Cities homes.


VUJOVICH
612-338-2020
vujovich.com

 **ACCREDITED BUSINESS**


NARI
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE REMODELING INDUSTRY

OUR VOICES

DATELAND | BY JENNIFER PARELLO

Captain, Dumb Captain

I'm writing this in the cabin of my boat. I'm distracted at the moment because this cabin was the location of the first big makeout session I've had since becoming single. Now, I associate the cabin bed with kissing, and I keep looking up from my computer expecting to be kissed, and get quite peeved each time I realize that I'm here alone.

The last time I was single I was 35, and I didn't have a boat. Now, I'm 50. Do you know what I've learned about being single now that I'm older and (allegedly) wiser? Having a boat is a super good idea. It's like cat nip to the ladies. The minute news of my singlehood hit the wires, I started getting offers from women eager to bring me picnics on the boat. Women who would have never offered me a crust of bread in my bumbling 20s were now preparing me portable feasts comprised of suggestively shaped breads, expensive-looking olives, and all kinds of fancy stuff I've never seen in regular grocery stores, all in hopes of going down below with me. (And, that, thank God, is the extent of my nautical double entendres.)

So, kids, start saving for a boat. It really does work!

Sadly, though, I don't think I've learned anything else about being single. I'm still the same idiot I was in my 20s.

In the past 15 years, I've been in two relationships: one for nine years and the other for six. When my last relationship ended a few months ago, I started making big plans related to my single life.

I was going to date — a lot! I was going to be very European about the whole business. I would go to dinner with a new person each night! Drink expensive wines and never get drunk! Ignore emails for days and then casually respond only when the mood struck! Have serious conversations about art (even though I know virtually nothing about it), and maybe take up smoking just to look French-ish!

This time, I told myself, I'd be very smart about dating. At 50, I have the supreme self-confidence and the sophistication needed to avoid the romantic pitfalls of my stupid youth. I no longer need to play the fool for love. I would be in complete control of my emotions, and I'd merrily move on to the next love interest if a woman gave me the slightest bit of guff.

It was all so good in theory. I couldn't think

of anything that would prevent me from carrying out my plan. After all, I'm devilishly attractive, possess raw animal charm, and, let's not forget, I've got a boat.

But what I didn't figure into the equation was that while my brain was 100% on board with this sensible plan, and my middle-aged hunger really looked forward to all those lovingly prepared picnic seductions, my heart had other ideas.

Apparently, while the rest of my body has grown more seasoned and smarter, my heart is the exact same nitwit as always.

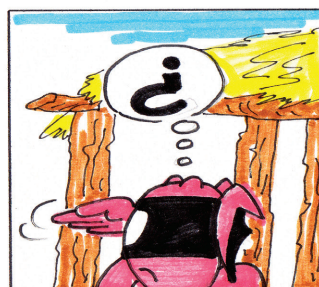
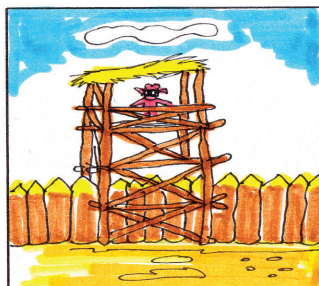
Which is why, today, I find myself on a cool, rainy day in the cabin of my boat, pathetically reliving the memory of that now week's old kissing. You see, dear readers, I became smitten with the very first woman I brought aboard the boat. And she didn't even bring a picnic!

Occasionally, I'm roused from my reverie by the ding of an incoming text. I anxiously reach for my phone, hoping it's her. Instead, it's an invitation to the theater from a comely anthropologist or a bit of coquetry from a former crush fishing for a boat ride. Each time, I drop the phone without responding. Instead, I stare at the cabin ceiling and miserably wait. ■



TROLÍN, UN DIABLITO ROSA

POR RODRO



As much as I keep look looking, I don't see better times.
J'ai beau regarder mais je ne vois pas de meilleurs jours.

24/7 Friendly Customer Care 1(888) 634.2628 18+ ©2013 PC LLC MegaMatesMen.com 2446

CLASSIFIEDS

ACUPUNCTURE

The Balancing Act Acupuncture & Massage. Doing what you love is your job. Keeping you in Balance is ours. Trans* friendly. 1409 Willow Street, Ste. 415, Minneapolis. (612) 584-9967 www.thebalancingactmn.com.

COFFEE SHOPS

Fireroast, a gay-owned community coffee shop. Food & coffee created by a staff that cares! Meeting Space with a gender neutral restroom. 3800 37th Ave S, Minneapolis. (612) 724-9895, www.fireroastcafe.com.

EVENT PLANNING

Fotobox photo booths are perfect for any event. Our professional attendant will guarantee your guests have a great time. Large booth, props, & everyone gets a print. www.fotoboxlive.com/twincities, (612) 246-3711.

HOME FURNISHINGS

COTTAGE HOUSE • An Occasional Market • Next sale: **ANTIQUA FAIR - AUGUST 5, 6, 7, 8, 9**. Wed 1-7, Thur-Fri 10-7, Sat-Sun 10-6 • 4304 Chicago Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN. www.thecottagehouseempls.com.

JEWELERS

Read our reviews! At Uniquely Yours Custom Designed Jewelry, we create unique engagement & wedding rings, & more! Expert jewelry restorations & repairs. Passion fuels everything we create. **READ OUR REVIEWS!** www.uniquelyyourscustomjewelry.com, (612) 746-0508.

OFFICIANTS

Officiant for your personalized sacred ceremonies: weddings, memorials, baby blessings, home blessings. Contact Diana Hansen, a joyful, creative New Thought minister at revdmhansen@yahoo.com or (651) 999-9049.

PRIVATE INVESTIGATIONS

AUTHENTIC INVESTIGATIONS - Professional investigators providing services to individuals, corporations, insurance companies and attorneys. Licensed, bonded, and insured in Minnesota and Wisconsin. www.authenticinvestigations.com. (612) 871-7244.

REAL ESTATE

CASH BACK HOME PURCHASE! Top Minneapolis Gay Realtors Represent You. FREE! Choose your Perfect Agent On-Line + Receive up to \$2500 VISA Gift Card! www.GayRealEstate.com/perk or Toll Free: 1.888.420.MOVE (6683).

SOLAR ENERGY

Life. Powered by the sun. Reduce your electric bill with Energy Concepts. Great incentives available now for limited time for solar electric and thermal! Call for free evaluation. www.EnergyConcepts.us, (715) 381-9977.

SPORTS & RECREATION

Join in the fun where you leave your troubles and clothes behind. Visit Two Creeks Clothing Optional Campground, just north of the Twin Cities. Visit 2Creeks.com or call (763) 250-1122.

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

STRONG & RELAXING hands, resulting in bodywork at its best! Bruck, MT, DC in South Minneapolis @ (612) 306-6323.

Stephen Parish C.M.T. - (612) 875-6677. Therapeutic Massage, www.stephenparishmassage.com. \$50 for 60 min. or \$75 for 90 min. Now accepting Visa and MasterCard.

WEDDING PLANNERS

The Crown Room Banquet Center- holiday parties, corporate events, wedding receptions, and more! An incomparable experience complete with outstanding food and professional staff to cater your event needs. TheCrownRoomRogers.com, (763) 428-8181.



SEE YOU AT THE GAME!

FRIDAY, JULY 24 • 7:05 PM
ST. PAUL SAINTS vs. LINCOLN SALTDogs
CHS FIELD • LOWERTOWN ST. PAUL

SQUIRT
.org
Hot 'n horny hookups.

**Non-Stop
Cruising**



Get up to 10 days unlimited access.
Join now for FREE.

Accessible: 

THE NETWORK

ACCOUNTING & BOOKKEEPING



Karen R Palm CPA CFP
TAX preparation
FEE ONLY financial planning
NO product sales
612-379-1393
www.palmkcpa.com

GUN SHOPS

Bill's Gun Shop & Range

- Fully stocked firearms dealer
- Indoor shooting facilities
- Training courses

Robbinsdale, MN • 763-533-9594
Circle Pines, MN • 763-792-4867
Hudson, WI • 715-690-1198
www.billsGS.com

HOME SERVICES

✓ Roofing ✓ Siding ✓ Home Efficiencies
✓ Gutters ✓ Insulation ✓ Windows

Snap construction inc.
It's that easy™

INDUSTRY LEADING
10 YEAR
craftsmanship warranty

www.snapconstruction.com
CALL US 612-333-SNAP (7627)

AUTO REPAIR & SERVICE

PAUL WILLIAMS
TIRE AND AUTO SERVICE

An award winning automotive shop in Uptown
510 W. Lake St., Minneapolis • 612-823-8255
www.paulwilliamstire.com

HOME SERVICES

Professional Cleaners
Licensed & Insured

Sparkle Plenty

612.669.1606
sparkleplentycleaners.com

ProHomeRenovating.com
612-205-5618

- carpentry & remodeling
- painting & repairs
- other home maintenance
- no job is too small

Gay owned and operated since 1986.

Family Owned & Operated
For Over 60 Years!

HAGEN'S AUTO BODY

FREE Estimates • All Insurance Accepted
Lifetime Repair Warranty

28th & Lyndale Ave. S, Mpls • 612-872-6671
WWW.HAGENSAUTOBODY.COM

SOS HOMECARE

RESTORATION • RENOVATION
MAINTENANCE • REPAIR

CARPENTRY • KITCHENS • TILING • PLASTERING
BATHROOM • CONCRETE • DECKS • PATIOS
FREE ESTIMATES

Your Complete Professional HomeCare Company
SOSHOMECAREANDREMODELING.COM

TODD OR LEE
612-374-3222
MN LIC#BC-20270903

Good Stuff MOVING
651-488-4808

Small Local Company
Very best service for the very best price.

www.goodstuffmoving.com

EMPLOYMENT

EXPERIENCED
ADVERTISING ACCOUNT
EXECUTIVE WANTED

Work as a print and/or online
Advertising Account Executive
for Lavender Media, leaders
in GLBT marketing and events.

Send your cover letter
and resume to:
barry@lavendermagazine.com
No phone calls please.

LIGHT'N UP!
— LIGHTING —
952-934-6730

Visit our Showroom in Eden Prairie or
Shop over 100,000 light fixtures at
lightn-up.com/promotions

Serving you for 100 years! **SINCE 1914**

SODERLIN
PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR

612-721-4080

Serving the entire Twin Cities Area
Emergency Service Available

WWW.SODERLIN.COM

Licensed, Bonded & Insured
LICENSE #58002PM & 3272MB

SHELTER
ARCHITECTURE.

residential | commercial

612.870.4081 shelterarchitecture.com

We're your expert
home heating,
cooling and
plumbing company.

Uptown
PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING

612-424-9349
uptownheatingandcooling.com

FLORIST

Garden of Eva, Inc.
Your Friendly Neighborhood Florist

**Come See The
Summer Flowers!**

651-646-7244
www.gardenofeva.net
1585 Marshall Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55104

MATT'S TREE SERVICE
CABLING, PRUNING, & REMOVALS
LICENSED AND INSURED

Residential & Commercial Services
ISA Certified Arborist on Staff
Tree Removal • Tree Trimming • Chipping • Stump Grinding
Storm Damage • Lot Clearing • Hedge & Shrub Pruning
Emerald Ash Borer, Dutch Elm Disease
and Oak Wilt protection treatments
25+ yrs. Experience
Credit Cards accepted

Office: 612-706-8210

INSURANCE

An exceptional community
deserves exceptional service.

Steve Wolfson
612-822-1190

1516 West Lake St., Ste. 203 • Minneapolis
swolfson@farmersagent.com

FARMERS

THE NETWORK

INSURANCE

State Farm
Davina Baldwin
www.davinabaldwin.com
763.535.4788
6262 Boone Ave. N.
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428
davina@davinabaldwin.com
Auto | Home | Life | Health | Business



Davina M. Baldwin


PSYCHOTHERAPY




**David Shannon, LICSW
Psychotherapist**
2324 University Avenue West
Suite 100 ~ St. Paul 55114
deshannon46@gmail.com
507-399-3789 (cell)
Mature Gay/Bi Men's Therapy
Group has openings

REAL ESTATE

DONAVON KEENEY
REALTOR
"A BRIDGE BETWEEN BUYERS AND SELLERS"
p: 612-232-5527
e: DonavonKeeney@edinarealty.com



Edina Realty The edge you need.
a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate
download my app: 

SCOTT HAUBRICH
BROKER
612-298-5400

SCOTT@BUYRENTSELLMN.COM
WWW.BUYRENTSELLMN.COM



Call me for your FREE Market Analysis

Nancy Walker
Live Well... Invest Wisely!
COLDWELL BANKER
BURNET
Making Dreams Come Home™
www.thenancywalkerteam.com
nwalker@cbburnet.com
612.827.9537



christopher j friend
urban realtor
612 827 5847 • christopherfriend@edinarealty.com
www.christopherfriend.edinarealty.com
Edina Realty
a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate



REAL ESTATE

13915 Orchard Road Edina Realty
Minnetonka



Contemp retreat on 1.1 acres. Incredible views,
perfectly updated, 3 BR, 3BA. \$374,000
Jodi Williams 612-232-1188
www.JodiWilliams.edinarealty.com

COMMUNITY Starts At Home



Scott Belcher
612-805-8880
scottbelcher.com
The network that gets results.



SPORTS & RECREATION



TIMBER CREEK
GOLF COURSE
9750 COUNTY RD. 24
WATERTOWN, MN 55388
(952) 955-3600
WWW.TIMBERCREEKGOLFMINN.COM

Advertise your
business in
THE NETWORK
Call
612-436-4698



ADVERTISER INDEX

Adult	
MegaMates.....	53
Squirr - PresNet, Inc.....	53
Arts & Entertainment	
Hennepin Theatre Trust.....	35
Radio K 770.....	35
Septembers: Senior Muses of a Gay Man.....	17
Automotive	
Kline Nissan.....	47
LaMethy's Collision.....	35
Carousel Porsche.....	13
Turbo Tim's Anything Automotive.....	47
Bars & Nightlife	
19 Bar.....	38
eagleBOLBar.....	39
Gay 90's.....	39
Beauty & Relaxation	
Good Luck Ink.....	59
Beverages	
AM Craft.....	21
Haskell's.....	19
Tin Whiskers.....	23
Business Services	
Longfellow Business Association/Shop the Minnehaha Mile.....	38
Outloud Promotions.....	43
Coffee & Tea	
Firecrack Cafe.....	19
Computer & Internet	
Comcast.....	17
Softluxe.....	46
Dating Services	
Elite Private Search.....	5
Event Venues & Services	
All About you Catering & Deli.....	23
D'Amico & Partners.....	21
Events	
Fine Spirits Classic.....	2
Lavender First Thursdays.....	16
Twin Cities Goodtime Softball League.....	51
Financial	
Melhart, Royce.....	9
ROR Tax Professionals.....	13
Wells Fargo Bank.....	60
Health & Wellness	
Boulevard Chiropractic.....	41
Burns, Steve.....	7
Mill Dental Dental.....	15
Pride Institute.....	50
Right at Home.....	41
University of Minnesota, Infectious Diseases.....	4
University of MN Physicians Center for Sexual Health.....	8
Home Furnishings & Accessories	
Framework.....	41
Habitation Furniture + Design.....	5
Home Services	
American Glass & Mirror.....	19
Exterior Enhancements Inc.....	51
Garlock-French Roofing.....	17
House Lift Remodeling.....	44
SCC Kitchen Bath & Home / Zen Windows.....	37
Vujovich Design Build.....	51
Insurance	
Barlett, Dawn.....	8
Horizon Agency.....	46
Jewelry	
JB Hudson Jewelers.....	11
Max's.....	7
Scheherazade Jewelers.....	7
T Lee Fine Designer Jewelry.....	41
Wedding Day Diamonds.....	9
Legal	
Cloutier Law Offices.....	7
Heltzer & Houghtaling.....	43
Jerry Burg, Attorney at Law.....	23
Johnson, Randall.....	31
Moshier, Becky.....	9
Robichaud & Alcantara, P.A.....	13
Media & Communications	
AM950 Radio.....	7
MPR & The Current.....	29
Mortgage	
David Lozinski, First Equity Mortgage.....	43
Alerus Mortgage.....	46
Pet Products & Services	
Downtown Dogs.....	29
Fun City Dogs.....	29
Second Chance Animal Rescue.....	29
Real Estate & Rentals	
One Ten Grant Apartments.....	15
Renters Warehouse.....	3
Ruzick, Amy & Johnson, Kay.....	43
Spara Realty.....	13
Vue Apartment Homes.....	37
Restaurants	
Burger Mae's.....	19
Caci's Deli.....	21
Element Wood Fire Pizza.....	21
IceHouse.....	29
Jakeeno's Pizza & Pasta.....	23
Melling Pot, The.....	17
Nanna Rosa's.....	21
Pilgrimage Cafe.....	23
Red Cow.....	21
50th Street Cafe, Uptown Diner, Woodbury Cafe, Louisiana Cafe, Grandview Grill.....	23
Sports & Recreation	
Above the Falls Sports.....	46
North Star Gay Rodeo.....	31
Twin Cities Goodtime Softball League.....	51
Travel & Accommodations	
The Commons Hotel.....	41
Water Street Inn.....	8

Community Connection brings visibility to local GLBT-friendly non-profit organizations. To reserve your listing in Community Connection, call 612-436-4698 or email advertising@lavendermagazine.com.

ADDICTION & TREATMENT

Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation

Providing comprehensive treatment, recovery solutions. Helping people reclaim their lives from the disease of addiction.
15251 Pleasant Valley Rd,
Center City, MN
(800) 257-7810
www.hazelden.org

ADVOCACY

Rainbow Health Initiative

Committed to advancing the health and wellness of LGBTQ communities through research, education and advocacy.
2021 E. Hennepin Ave., Ste. 220
Minneapolis, MN 55413
(612) 206-3180
www.rainbowhealth.org

AIDS/HIV INFO & TREATMENT

Aliveness Project, The

Community Center for Individuals Living with HIV/AIDS - On-site Meals, Food Shelf and Supportive Services.
3808 Nicollet Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55409
(612) 824-LIFE (5433) www.aliveness.org

Minnesota AIDS Project AIDSline

The AIDSline is the statewide referral service to connect with HIV information and resources.
1400 Park Ave.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 373-AIDS (metro) or
(800) 248-AIDS (statewide)
mapaidline@mnaidsproject.org
www.mnaidsproject.org

Park House

Day health / mental health treatment program for adults living with HIV/AIDS.
710 E. 24th St., Ste. 303
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 871-1264
www.allina.com/ahs/anw.nsf/page/park_house_home

Red Door Services CAPS Program

Hennepin County Public Health Clinic. Get connected to HIV care, support, and services.
525 Portland Ave. S, 4th Floor
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 348-3307
www.capsprogram.org

U of MN HIV Research Studies

Looking for HIV+ and HIV- individuals to participate in research studies.
420 Delaware St. SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455
(612) 625-7472
hiv.umn.edu

ANIMAL RESCUE

Animal Humane Society

Adoption, rescue, outreach, training, boarding. Buffalo, Coon Rapids, Golden Valley, St. Paul and Woodbury.
(763) 522-4325
www.animalhumanesociety.org

BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS

Longfellow Business Association

Shop the Minnehaha Mile- For vintage, one-of-a-kind, upcycled and rediscovered treasures.
4049 Minnehaha Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55406
(612) 293-6863
www.longfellowbusinessassociation.org

EVENT VENUES

Minneapolis Municipal Building

Exchange your wedding vows surrounded by stained glass windows & carved Italian marble. Intimate. Historic. Classic.
350 S. 5th St.
Minneapolis, MN 55415
(612) 596-9518
www.municipalbuildingcommission.org/Weddings

McNamara Alumni Center

An architecturally-stunning venue on the University of Minnesota campus. D'Amico Catering, parking ramp, adjacent hotel.
200 Oak St. SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455
(612) 624-9831
www.mac-events.org

FOUNDATIONS

The Minneapolis Foundation

Celebrate with us a century of civic engagement, diverse community building, and prosperity for all.
www.mpls100.org

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Family Tree Clinic

LGBTQ Health Matters at Family Tree! Offering respectful, affordable sexual health services to meet your needs.
1619 Dayton Ave.
St. Paul, MN
(651) 645-0478
www.familytreeclinic.org

NAMI Minnesota

(National Alliance on Mental Illness)
Providing free classes and peer support groups for people affected by mental illnesses.
800 Transfer Rd. #31
St. Paul, MN 55114
(651) 645-2948
www.namihelps.org

Reclaim!

Working to increase access to mental health support for queer and transgender* youth.
3217 Hennepin Ave. S., Ste. 2
Minneapolis, MN 55408
(612) 235-6743
<http://www.reclaim-lgbyouth.org>

LIBRARY

Quatrefoil Library

Your GLBT Library with stacks of DVDs, books, and magazines. Check out our online catalogue.
1220 E. Lake St.
Minneapolis, MN 55407
(612) 729-2543
www.qlibrary.org

MUSEUM

Minnesota Historical Society Sites & Museums

Make the Minnesota Historical Society's 26 historic sites and museums part of your vacation plans.
www.mnhs.org

Weisman Art Museum

Free admission every day. Located on the Green Line. Contemporary and early American modernism art.
333 E. River Rd.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 625-9494
www.wam.umn.edu

MUSIC

MPR & The Current

Providing in depth news coverage, classical music, and emerging artists on our three regional services.
480 Cedar St.
St. Paul, MN 55101
(651) 290-1500
www.mpr.org

Radio K 770

Radio K is the student-run radio station of the University of Minnesota
330 21st Ave. S.
610 Rarig Center
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 625-3500
www.radiok.org

PERFORMING ARTS

CANTUS

"The premier men's vocal ensemble in the United States." - Fanfare Magazine
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 435-0055
www.cantussings.org

Children's Theatre Company

North America's flagship theatre for young audiences and families, offering year-round live theatre for ages 2-18.
2400 3rd Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 874-0400
www.childrenstheatre.org

Cowles Center for Dance and Performing Arts

The Cowles Center is the Twin Cities' flagship for the creation, performance, education, celebration of dance.
528 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis, MN
www.thecowlescenter.org

Guthrie Theater

A nationally acclaimed cultural destination, home to three unique theaters, dining, tours, classes and more.
818 S. 2nd St.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 377-2224
www.guthrietheater.org

Hennepin Theatre Trust

Orpheum, State, Pantages and New Century Theatres
Twin Cities' best live entertainment: Broadway shows, music concerts, comedy, dance and more!
Minneapolis, MN
1-800-982-2787
www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org

History Theatre

Musicals and plays about the people and events that make up the American experience.
30 E. 10th St.
St. Paul, MN
(651) 292-4944
www.HistoryTheatre.com

Illusion Theater

Nationally renowned for developing artists and new work while sparking conversation about challenging human issues.
528 Hennepin Ave., 8th Fl.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 339-4944
www.illusiontheater.org

Jungle Theater

Professional theater producing contemporary and classic works in an intimate setting in the Lynlake neighborhood.
2951 Lyndale Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN
(612) 822-7063
www.JungleTheater.com

Minnesota Orchestra

Enriching, inspiring and serving our community as a symphony orchestra internationally recognized for artistic excellence.
1111 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 371-5656
(800) 292-4141
www.minnesotaorchestra.org

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Mixed Blood Theatre

Professional, multiracial company, promotes cultural pluralism through artistic excellence and Radical Hospitality no-cost admission program.
1501 S. 4th St.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 338-0937
www.mixedblood.com

Northrop - University of Minnesota

An epicenter of discovery and transformation celebrating innovation in the arts, performance, and academics.
84 Church St. SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414
(612) 625-6600
northrop.umn.edu

Ordway Center for the Performing Arts

Hosting, presenting, and creating performing arts and educational programs that enrich diverse audiences.
345 Washington St.
St. Paul, MN
(651) 224-4222
www.ordway.org

Phoenix Theater

Comedy, Tragedy, and the stuff in between. Offers theater, music, late night events, and more.
2605 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55408
(612) 377-2285
www.phoenixtheatrempls.org

Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus

An award-winning chorus that builds community through music and offers entertainment worth coming out for!
528 Hennepin Ave., Suite 307
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 339-SONG (7664)
chorus@tcgmc.org
www.tcgmc.org

POLITICS & RIGHTS

Human Rights Campaign

Advocates for all GLBT Americans, mobilizes grassroots action, invests strategically to elect fair-minded individuals.
P.O. Box 50608
Minneapolis, MN
www.twincities.hrc.org
www.hrc.org

OutFront Minnesota

Delivering programs/services in the area of public policy, anti-violence, education, training and law.
310 E. 38th St., Ste. 204
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 822-0127
www.outfront.org

PRIDE

Twin Cities Pride

The third-largest national Pride celebration seeks sponsors, volunteers, and board members. Contact us today.
2021 E. Hennepin Ave., Ste. 460
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 255-3260
www.tcpride.org

RELIGIOUS & SPIRITUAL

All God's Children Metropolitan Community Church

A radically inclusive community committed to being All God's Children FOR all God's children!
3100 Park Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 824-2673
www.agcmcc.org

Central Lutheran Church

We welcome all people to discover, celebrate and share the love of Christ.
333 Twelfth St. S.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 870-4416
www.centralmpls.org

Edina Community Lutheran Church

Upbeat, growing congregation committed to inclusion, justice, peace, community and proclaiming God's YES to all.
4113 W. 54th St.
Edina, MN
(952) 926-3808
www.eclc.org

First Christian Church - Disciples of Christ

A Movement for Wholeness In A Fragmented World.
610 W. 28th St.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 870-1868
www.fccminneapolis.org

Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church

It's a new day at Hennepin Church! Vibrant Worship. Authentic Hospitality. Beloved Community.
511 Groveland Ave.
511 Groveland Ave.
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 871-5303
www.hennepinchurch.org

New Life Presbyterian Church

Inclusive Christian faith community daring to live in Jesus' transforming love. Come and see.
965 Larpentour Ave. W.
Roseville, MN 55113
(651) 488-5581
www.newlifechurchroseville.org

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church

A Covenant Network Congregation welcoming all people.
797 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN
(651) 227-6311
www.hohchurch.org

Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis

Spiritual, Loving, Relevant, Transforming.
Find us on Facebook and Twitter
1900 Nicollet Ave. at Franklin
Minneapolis, MN
(612) 871-7400
www.plymouth.org

St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral

Wherever you are on your faith journey...
St. Mark's Welcomes You.
519 Oak Grove St. Minneapolis, MN
(612) 870-7800
www.ourcathedral.org

St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Wingspan Ministry, Pastoral Care for the GLBT community, Education, Music, Witness and Advocacy
100 N. Oxford St.
St. Paul, MN 55104
(651) 224-3371
www.stpaulref.org

United Methodist Reconciling Churches

Congregations around Minnesota that intentionally welcome all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.
www.mnrcumc.org

SPORTS & RECREATION

Twin Cities Goodtime Softball League (TCGSL)

Join 500 GLBT softball players as we celebrate 36 years of gay softball in Minnesota.
P.O. Box 580264
Minneapolis, MN
www.tcgsl.org

STATE FAIRS

Minnesota State Fair

The "Great Minnesota Get-Together" provides a world-class showcase that is innovative, entertaining and fun.
1265 Snelling Ave. N.
St. Paul, MN 55108
(651) 288-4400
www.mnstatefair.org

TRAVEL

Discover Stillwater

Voted best weekend getaway!
Birthplace of Minnesota. Distinctive lodging. Shop / Dine / Cruise / Art Galleries / Nightlife.
Stillwater, MN 55082
(651) 351-1717
<http://www.DiscoverStillwater.com>

Explore Minnesota

Celebrating the unique experiences, great places & rich culture that can only be found in Minnesota.
121 7th Place E
Metro Square, Ste. 100
St. Paul, MN 55101
(888) TOURISM
www.exploreminnesota.com

Meet Minneapolis Convention & Visitor Association

Meet Minneapolis markets Minneapolis as the premier convention, leisure, weddings and group destination.
250 Marquette Ave. S. #1300
Minneapolis, MN 55401
(612) 767-8000
www.minneapolis.org

Visit Duluth

Lake Superior. Historic waterfront. Vibrant arts & dining. Adventure. Hotels and B&Bs. Attractions and events.
21 W. Superior St., Ste. 100
Duluth, MN
(218) 722-4011, (800) 4-DULUTH
www.visitduluth.com

Cheshire Boy

The Gorgeous Boy has picture-perfect teeth and he picture-perfect smiles. His cheeks rise, his eyes scrunch. His laugh is charming and wonderful; his skin is tan and taut; his hair is full and soft. He's head-turning, giggle-making, loved, hated, but never ignored. Strangers long to be him, long for him, want him on their side.

He rarely speaks. Is he stupid? Who cares. He's beautiful.

His personality is a mystery but doesn't really matter. His opinions are unneeded because his smile says it all: agreeable when needed, amused when wanted, comforting in moments of despair.

He lives at our pleasure.

He is in magazines, in porn, on runways; he's the friend everyone wants, the trophy in our Facebook pictures, arm candy on the town. He never messes up because he never really tries. That's what we like about him. He always exceeds our expectations. He's always impossibly beautiful.

But the Gorgeous Boy is slowly vanishing. His hands and feet blow away with the wind, as do his arms and legs, stomach and chest, his neck, his ears, his nose. His body dissolves piece by piece, until he's left with only his smile, which he'll keep until he's dead, until he disappears into a Cheshire world.

I've met the Gorgeous Boy, on photo shoots and at bars. I want to solve his mystery, to know his personality. I want to catch him picking his nose, doing something strange, to find out who he is, not who we want him to be.

My efforts always fail, and they always will. The Gorgeous Boy is perfect by definition; to peek behind his curtain is to collapse the illusion. He loses the enigma, his smile fades away,

he's not what we wanted. He's real. Imperfect.

But he is no fool. So evidenced:

One-thirty in the morning. I'm at a party for a clothing designer. The Gorgeous Boy and I sit on cushy, white chairs by a city-peeking window. I'm drunk. He's sipping water.

"I want to know you," I say, accidentally creepily.

He smiles nervously.

"Not, not like *that*. I mean, I want to know about you."

"Okay," he says and smiles. "What would you like to know?"

I sip my drink and look away. How do I solicit a genuine reply?

"I like rock climbing," he says before I answer his question. His response is startling and, I'm ashamed to say, unsettling, almost as if it were out of turn, too aggressive.

We talk for fifteen minutes or more, and I find he is sweet and intelligent. He's in school for art history and we share admiration for Rothko and good scotch.

"Can I ask you a question?" I say.

"You just did."

And witty. He's witty.

"Course. What is it?"

"You're different in this industry. In this room even. You're surprising me tonight because you're usually so quiet and shy around everyone. Your friends are, too." I motion toward a few models standing by a bar, surrounded by older men. "It's professional, sure, but your peers are so — how do I say this —"

"Boring?"

"Maybe. I guess. I mean, how is it that you guys can show so much personality in a picture but pretend to have none in person?"

He looks away, leans his forearms on his knees, and chews on his cheek, wondering how to respond. As I look at him I realize I've agreed with everything he's said tonight, as he has me, which makes me question his authenticity. Not that he's lied, just that he's been... selective. Noncontroversial. The Gorgeous Boy. He knows how to give people what they want in a picture, without even speaking — is it so hard to believe he can read people the same in person? Has he just been telling me what I've wanted to hear for the past fifteen minutes? Is this a big ploy to get me to give him publicity?

No. I'm giving him too much credit — a thing I do when I drink.

"A photographer once yelled at me because I made a joke on set," he says. "He told me that I was nothing more than a clothes hanger with a decent-looking face and a pretty good smile... He said that no one wanted a talking clothes hanger, that I was easily replaceable... Justin, if someone said that to *you* at *your* job, you think you'd be anything but submissive to the people who control your career?" His eyes are intense and locked onto mine as he speaks, his tone is almost angry. "I'm 21. I've got a good four years of work left in this industry, before I'm too old. And that's if things go well. If I screw up once, I'm screwed for good." He relaxes his voice. "I'm trying to make the most of it. If you're smart, I guess we all are."

He leans back into his chair. I offer him a sip of my drink.

He takes it. ■

ThroughTheseEyes.JustinJones@gmail.com

AS
SEEN ON
**GOOD
MORNING
AMERICA**

LOVE — your — LOOK IN ONLY **1** VISIT

Sharp, smooth hairlines resulting from
Good Look Ink's revolutionary 3-D hair
follicle enhancement process.



Good Look Ink
Love your look.



BEFORE



AFTER

Call Toll-Free: 952-222-0020 or visit: MyGoodLook.com



WELLS
FARGO

Together is a beautiful thing.

This is a moment to celebrate. You've worked hard to get this far, and look at what you've accomplished. At Wells Fargo, we recognize your successes, and are committed to supporting the financial needs of our LGBT community, customers, and team members. Because when we work together to realize our dreams — it's nothing short of a beautiful thing.

wellsfargo.com/lgbt

Together we'll go far

